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The Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLISHED TWICE DAILY.

THE Bombay Gazette

MORNING EDITION.

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No. 54,347.—NEW SERIES.] BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1908. [PRICE: ONE ANNA.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

LIST OF DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY FOR MARSEILLES & LONDON

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Date of Sailing Saturday	Steamers.	Tons.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons
6-30 P.M. 1908.				
29th Feb.	ARCADIA	6803		
7th Mar.	CALEDONIA	7846	BRITANNIA	6859
14th "	ARABIA	7969		
21st "	CALEDONIA	7846	MOOLTAN	9621
28th "	PERSIA	7951		
4th Apr.	MARMORA	10809		
11th "	EGYPT	7912		
18th "	CALEDONIA	7846	MOLDAVIA	9900
25th "	MACEDONIA	10519		
2nd May	ORIENTAL	6984	HIMALAYA	6898
9th "	CALEDONIA	7846		
16th "	ORIENTAL	6984	MONGOLIA	9505
23rd "	ARABIA	7969		

The above Steamers convey Passengers to Marseilles, Plymouth and London.

Passengers for Brindisi transhipp to a connecting steamer at Port Said.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with port of destination.

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Bombay, 22th September 1907.

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FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS

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NERA	5,838	Schmitz	19th Mar. 1908.
CALEDONIEN	4,130	Martin	16th Apr. "
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	14th May "
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Barillon	11th June "
OCEANIEN	4,148	Magnan	9th July. "
NERA	5,838	Schmitz	6th Aug. "
ARMAND BEHIC	6,385	Guionnet	3rd Sept. "

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DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	28th Feb. 1908.
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Barillon	27th Mar 1908.
OCEANIEN	4,148	Magnan	24th Apr. 1908.

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YETOROFU MARU	..	K. Sato	....	1st Mar.
KAGESHIMA MARU	...	T. Arakawa	28th Feb.	11th Mar.
WAKAMIYA MARU	...	R. Yamawaki	10th Mar.	22nd Mar.
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Tokoda	18th Mar.	1st April.
MOYOKI MARU	...	Jas. Handy	31st Mar.	12th April.
YEBOSHI MARU	...	T. Kon	8th April	22nd April
HIOJUN MARU	...	T. Irisawa	21st April	3rd May.
TAKASAKI MARU	...	A. Mocker	29th April	13th May.
TOTOMI MARU	...	M. Winckler	12th May	24th May.
YETOROFU MARU	...	K. Sato	20th May	3rd June.
KAGESHIMA MARU	...	T. Arakawa	2nd June	14th June.
WAKAMIYA MARU	...	K. Tokoda	10th June	26th June.
KOGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	23rd June	4th July.
MOYOKI MARU	...	Jas. Hands	1st July	16th July.
YEBOSHI MARU	...	T. Kon	14th July	24th July
HIOJUN MARU	...	T. Irisawa	22nd July	5th Aug.
TAKASAKI MARU	...	A. Mocker	4th Aug	16th Aug.
TOTOMI MARU	...	M. Winckler	13th Aug	26th Aug.

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Steamers.	Tons.	Sailing Date.	Time.	Route.—Vis.
LINGA	2,170	Mon. 2nd Mar.	11 a. m.	P. D. & O.*
DUMRA	1,700	Thur. 5th Mar.	9 a. m.	Cutch Mandvie,
LHASA	2,170	Frid. 28th Feb.	6 a. m.	(direct).

* Via Porebunder, Dwarka and Cutch Mandvie.

FOR KARACHI AND PERSIAN GULF (Weekly).

S. S. "BULIMBA," 2,510 tons, on MONDAY, 9th Mar., sailing at Veraval, Mangrole, Dwarka, Karachi, Pasni, Gwadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Dubai, Lingo, Bahrein, Bushire and Koweit.

FOR KARACHI AND BUSREH (Weekly).

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Frequent sailings, for particulars of which, also as to onward connections to ports in Arracan, Burma, Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Australia, and New Zealand.

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.,
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26th February, 1908.

AUSTRIAN UNDER MAIL THE AUSTRIAN

LLOYD'S S. N. Co, CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENT.

DIRECT LINE TO TRIESTE

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on
KOERBER	5301	A. Forestl	1st March 1908.
BOHEMIA	4793	M. Dubcovich	16th March 1908
AFRICA	4596	P. Badessich	1st April 1908.
IMPERATOR	4140	F. Moses	16th April 1908.
KOERBER	5301	A. Forestl	1st May 1908.
BOHEMIA	4793	M. Dubcovich	16th May 1908.
AFRICA	4596	P. Badessich	1st June 1908.

ORDINARY LINE TO TRIESTE.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
AUSTRIA	7538	G. Gilhalber	26th Mar. 1908.
VORWAERTS	3996	B. Bednarz	24th Apr. 1908.
PERSIA	7951	G. Bartole	29th May 1908.

* Will call at Karachi.

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CHINA	5399	A. de Petris	26th Mar, 1908,

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Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	Date. 1907.	
OLYMPIA	C.F.Osborne,R.N.R.	5124	29th Feb.	68.
CIROASSIA	Alex Haig	6,716	18th Mar	"
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	6,106	25th	"
CASTALIA		6,300	11th April	"
BRITANNIA	R. J. Garrick	7,969	19th	"
MASSILIA	J. Thomson	5,091	14th May	"
OLYMPIA	C.F.Osborne,R.N.R.	5,124	27th	"
CIROASSIA	Alex Haig	6,716	14th June	"
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	6,106	25th	"
CASTALIA		6,300	16th July	"

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WITH PROFITS.

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25	34 2	52 8	39 4	33 0	64 13	48 0	38 7	25
30	37 4	56 13	42 13	36 8	65 10	49 0	39 11	30
35	41 8	62 4	47 1	39 13	66 13	190 8	41 10	35
40	46 11	68 13	53 5	44 9	68 11	52 14	44 10	40
45	53 14	76 7	60 13	...	71 11	56 13	...	45

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PAID-UP CAPITAL	£600,000
RESERVE FUND	£600,000

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HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital	$ 15,000,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 15,000,000
Silver Reserve Fund	$ 13,500,000
Gold Reserve Fund	£ 1,500,000

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J. R. M. SMITH, *Chief Manager.*

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LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD

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RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.	£1,200,000

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For THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.,
HARRY S. JOHNSTON,
Manager,
BOMBAY.

NOTICE is hereby given that the GENERAL POWER of ATTORNEY, dated the 5th day of February, 1902, executed by me in favour of Mr. GIGA PRADHAN, has been REVOKED by me this day.—Date this 21st day of February, 1908.

GOVERDHANDAS GOCULDAS TEIZPAL.

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AND
MERCANTILE INSURANCE Co.
ESTABLISHED 1809.

CHIEF OFFICES:
EDINBURGH: 64, Prince's Street.
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Total Funds Exceed £17,915,000
Total Revenue for 1906 Exceeded £ 4,000,000

The sum of over ONE MILLION STERLING was divided among Participating Life Policy-holders in 1905, yielding a BONUS at the Rate of £1-8-0 per cent, per annum not only on the original sums assured but also on all subsisting Bonuses.

POLICIES in some cases have been MORE THAN DOUBLED in amount by the addition of BONUSES.

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Double Endowment Assurance in India at English Rates. Full particulars on application.

For 1906 PROSPECTUS and Proposal Forms apply to

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Secretaries,
NORTH BRITISH and MERCANTILE INSURANCE Co.,
KING'S BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

GRESHAM LIFE OFFICE.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

RESULTS FOR 1905.

THE PROFITS declared at the last Quinquennial valuation ending 31st December, 1905, show a SURPLUS of over 45 LACS of RUPEES, 90 per cent. of which will be distributed amongst the participating Policy-holders

ASSETS EXCEED, 14 Crores of Rupees,
PREMIUM INCOME, 2 Crores of Rupees
A GRESHAM Policy represents all that is desirable.

Apply CROFT MODY & CO.,
Chief Agents for India, Burma, and Ceylon
BOMBAY.

SALES BY AUCTION.

BENNETT & COMPANY,
No. 22, APOLLO STREET.

THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 27th instant, at 2 p.m. (S.T.), Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at "Altamount Road," Cumballa Hill, the very valuable and handsome teak and blackwood furniture, by John Roberts Breslaw, and Benjamin, also richly open carved and English Mahogany furniture, such as dining table, telescopic, Morocco line chairs, sideboard and dinner wagons, marble-top tables and teapoys, glass, glass-door book cases, office and writing tables, jardiniers, verandah benches, double and single mirror-door almyrahs, chest-of-drawers, marble-top dressing and wash-hand tables, English solid brass double and single bedstead, rich glass and porcelainware by Treacher's, best silver plated ware by Reed & Bartons and others, mahogany silk-lined dessert and fish knives, and forks in cases, real Persian and Indian carpets, fancy door curtain, latest new design, drawing-room Curzon suits, lined rich silk plush, one nearly new, large size Chubb's safe with keys and stand, Doulton and Chinese pedestal with flower-pots, clocks, Hinks table and bracket lamps, ice box, old Chinese flower-vases and table ornaments, one nearly new cloonized solid iron frame, cottage piano by Scudy and Co., a large collection of choice and rare garden plants such as crotonts, lilies, palms, Bigoneas, ferns, standard roses, one handsome strong victoria, in a very good order, one bay waler gelding, set of plated mounted single harness, etc., etc., the property of E. Hopman, Esq. and others.

The property of another gentleman—

An Electric Motor Car with American 4-seated Doctack Body.

A four-seated Char-a-Bank with canopy.

2 grey Arabs, 15 hands, both go well in single and double harness.

2 grey Arabs, 14 1/2 hands, both go well in single and double harness.

1 handsome strong glass fronted miniature brougham, in good order.

1 handsome office brougham by Dykes and Co., of Calcutta in very good condition.

1 handsome bay Arab horse 14-3, 6 years, quiet in harness.

1 Oxford's C. Spring Victoria.

1 E. B. Mail Couch, by Windover.

1 E. B. Waggonet by Windover with removeable hood.

1 four-wheel American cart.

1 pegoo pony.

1 baba pony.

Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

BENNETT & Co.

BOMBAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 1908.

VON LINTZGY'S

SPLEEN, LIVER, MALARIOUS FEVER, AND ANTI-FEVER MIXTURE.

Completely eradicates Fever and reduces Spleen and Liver. THOUSANDS CURED yearly. No recommendation is too strong for the Specific; it supersedes all other so-called Specifics.

PRICE Re. 1 per bottle.

SPECIAL RATES TO THE TRADE.

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VON LINTZGY & CO.,
CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS,
290-1-2, Bow Bazar Street, CALCUTTA,
and all respectable Medicine Vendors.

The above remedy has stood the test of time, and thorough trial. Thousands of Testimonials have been received and are open to inspection. Trials are earnestly solicited. We are quite confident of the result.

SELF CURE NO FICTION!
MARVEL UPON MARVEL!
NO SUFFERER
NEED NOW DESPAIR,

Quit without running a doctor's bill or falling into the deep ditch of quackery, may safely, speedily and economically cure himself without the knowledge of a second party. By the introduction of

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY
THERAPION,

a complete revolution has been wrought in this department of medical science, whilst thousands have been restored to health and happiness who for years previously had been merely dragging out a miserable existence.

THERAPION No. 1—A Sovereign Remedy for discharges from the urinary organs, superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases.

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THERAPION is sold by principal Chemists throughout the world. Price Rupees 5 each.

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BOMBAY PRICE CURRENT and Stationary of Trade, Published Weekly, with the Departure of the Overland Mail for Europe, containing a Weekly Written Market Report, Freight Report, the Summary of Cotton Exports during the Year, the Imports of Bullion and Specie, Quantities of Piece Goods, Yarn, Metals, Sugar, Kerosine, Cotton, Exports of Wheat, Seeds, and of Yarn into Bombay from Great Britain, Rates and Rates of Exchange, List of Vessels in Bombay, Where and the date of publication, and Arrival and Departure of Vessels during the Week, Customs and Postmasters' Rates, Banking Rates of Interest, &c. &c. Price As. 12 each. By Annual Subscription Rs. 30.

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THREE STARS
WHISKY.

Rs. 2-8 per bottle.

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SOLE AGENTS, BOMBAY or retail from

MESSRS. BRANDON & Co.,
VICTORIA TERMINUS
and
MESSRS. DENISON & Co.,
HUMMUM ST., FORT.

Liqueur Scotch Whisky (as supplied to the Savoy Hotel and Restaurant Ltd.)

O.B.G. (Old Blended Glenlivet) WHISKY.

O.H.S. (Old Highland Scotch) WHISKY.

G.O.H. (Grand Old Highland) WHISKY.

GREAT WESTERN HOTEL. FACING THE SEA. FORT, BOMBAY.

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In Time for
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THE BEST
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THE WHOLE DAY THROUGH AND IS READ FROM TITLE PAGE TO IMPRINT.

PRICE ONE ANNA.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS.

NOTES ON
INDIAN
INTERESTS

SPECIAL LONDON LETTERS:—

LONDON SOCIAL AND POLITICAL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

SPORT.

NOTICE to CYCLISTS.—Messrs. WALTER LANE & Co., European Cyclists of Church Gate Street, are removing from their present premises to "MANCHESTER BUILDING," Hornby Road, next door to Parle-India from 1st proximo, Bye.

FOR SALE, WANTED, &c.

Daily or thrice a week.—First Three Insertions—Four Annas per line; Fourth and Subsequent Insertions—Two Annas per line. Twice or Once a week.—First Three Insertions—Four Annas per line; Fourth and Subsequent Insertions—Three Annas per line. Minimum Charge Re. 1.

FOR SALE.

A Strong powerful wooden built and copper fastened STEAM LAUNCH, 16 tons net tonnage, 52 H. P., 51 feet long, 12 feet broad and 6 feet depth: machinery in good order but requires new boiler. Further particulars from

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.
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A LARGE BUNGLOW AT VARSOWA VIA ANDHERI.

AN UPPER STORYED BUNGLOW, with 6 large bed-rooms, with separate bath-rooms to each, a large drawing-room, and another on the top floor, and a large dining-room, with 8' verandah all round, with outhouses, stabling, kitchen, with large garden and compound with 2 wells, open to sea-breeze. For further particulars, apply to

Messrs. S. B. BOTTLEWALLA & Co.,
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HOLT & WILLETTS'
Patent Electric Direct Coupled
LIFTS
are guaranteed
ABSOLUTELY EFFICIENT.

For Specifications and Estimates Apply to—

SOLE AGENTS:
W. CROWDER & CO., LD.,
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IS PREPARED to negotiate for either the PURCHASE or SALE of MINES. Intending Purchasers or Sellers would do well to apply to the above, at No. 181, Old Modikhana, Fort, or Share Bazaar, Bombay.

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NEW and second-hand English-built CARRIAGES FOR SALE.

CARRIAGES and HORSES, let on hire.

CROCKERY, CUTLERY, GLASS WARE, for Sale and on hire.

FURNITURE of the latest design for Sale and on hire.

HOUSES FURNISHED with neat Furniture.

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Under the supervision of an able CUTTER of Thirty years' experience.

DRESSES MADE
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DEODORISED NAPTHA OR GASOLINE.

BEST for Motor-Cars, Bicycles, and Tricycles also for Naptha Lamps.

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J. V. NAVLAKHI & Co.,
Cheapest Dealers in
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Prof. James' Electro-Tonic Pearls Positively Cure

All Nervous Diseases, Sleeplessness, Failing Memory, etc., and restore Brain Fag, Incapacity for study or business, General Debility, Premature Decay, Exhausted Vitality, the result of overwork and dissipation.

Constitute sustaining and life-giving elements of special value to Professional and Literary Men, Clergymen, Tutors, Students, Lawyers, Clerks, Athletes Business men, and all engaged in mental occupation.

In Neurasthenia and in old age the effects of these Pearls are specially marked.

Their marvellous curative effects are manifested from the first day of their administration by a remarkable increase of Nerve, and Intellectual Power, with a feeling of courage, strength and comfort. Digestion is invigorated, appetite increases wonderfully, bowels become regular, countenance clear and ruddy, the eyes bright, sight improved, the step and gait again elastic and determined, the temper cheerful, the brain again active, memory tenacious, bodily nourishment increased and energy restored.

Price Rs. 2-0 per Bottle of 40 Pills.

Mr. J.C. Britto from Ponda writes that :—"Prof. James Electro-Tonic Pearls did me more good than all other medicine or Pills or the most marvellous Electric belt, that would be produced. Please send immediately two more bottles of it."

P. Shankar Dass, Medical Officer, Patar, Akola, writes that :—Prof. James' Electro-Tonic Pearls completely cured a woman suffering from hysteria although she was given up as hopless.

Can be had of all Medicine Dealers. See that you get the genuine, and don't accept substitute. If you find any difficulty in getting from your dealer, please send your order to

THE ANGLO-INDIAN DRUG & CHEMICAL CO.,
135-1 MARKET, BOMBAY, No. 2.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LONDON MARKETS.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 25.] [BOMBAY, FEBRUARY 26.

FINANCIAL.

	Rates.	Plus.	Minus.
2½ per cent. Consols ...	87 9/16		1/16
2½ do. Rentes	97	un	chgd
3 do. Sterling Loan ...	102		1/4
3½ do. Govt. Securities ...	83 3/4	un	chgd
Bar Silver in London ...	25 13/16	1/8	
Do. do. 2 months' hence	25 7/8	1/8	
Do. in New York ...	55 7/8	1/4	
Exchange on London at Paris ...	25·21		1/2
Do. do. do. Berlin.	20·49 1/4	un	chgd
Do. do. do. New York.	4·88 3/4	5/8	
Discount Bank of England Rate,	4	since	23 Jan
Do. Short London Bills, 3 months' sight	3 1/2	un	chgd
Do. Indian Bank Bills, 6 months' sight	3 1/4	un	chgd
Do. 3 Months' Fine Trade Bills ...	3 7/8	un	chgd
Do. 6 Months' Fine Trade Bills ...	3 7/8	un	chgd
Interest Day-to-day Loans ...	3 3/4	un	chgd
Do. 7-day Market Loans	3 7/8	un	chgd

Amount paid into the Bank of England, £125,000
Exchange on India, 30 days' sight (Bank's buying rate) 1s. 3 3/4 unchanged.

COTTON.

Liverpool :—

Spots .. ..Easier with fair demand.
Futures ... ...Easier.
East Indian ... ...Quiet
Manchester ... ...Dull.
Total Sales ... ... 8,000 bales
Sold on Speculation and for Export... 500 „
Imports... ... ...15,000 „
Mid-Americans... ... ...6·04—09
Egyptian F.G.F. Brown ... ...8 1/2—1/8

Future Delivery prices :—

Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-Apl.	Apl.-May.	May-June.
5·57 —10	5·59 —08	5·60 —09	5·60 —08

June-July	July-Aug.	Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.	Oct.-Nov.
5·59 —07	5·57 —06	5·49 —04	5·40 —05	5·31 —05

New York :—

Receipts at U.S. Ports ... ...28,000 bales
Do. do. last year ... ...42,000 „
Exports to Great Britain ... ... 4,000 „
Do. to Continent ... ... 1,000 „
Spot Cotton—11·15—15
Futures—Month of March, 10·28—17 { Declined owing to bear pressure and bulls unloading and to disappointing attitude of spinners.
Do. Do. May 10·46—17

New Orleans :—

Spot Cotton—11 3/8—1/8
Futures—Month of March 10·56—14
Do do May 10·56—12
Closing tone of futures—Steady.

SEEDS.

Rapeseed :—

Yellow Gujarat, per 416 lbs., 85 per cent. ex-ship 56 3/4 Apl.-May—Antwerp—Sellers—Canal.
Yellow Bawnpore, per 416 lbs. 85 p.c. ex-ship, 56 1/4 Apl.-May—H. A. and D. Sellers—Canal.
Brown Cawnpore 51 5/8—Apl.-May—Antwerp—Sellers—Canal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Coffee :—

In New York Fair Rio (No. 7 quality), 6 1/4 unchgd.

Sugar :—

German granulated sugar, double bags, C. and F. India 12s. 10 1/2d.
Months of Shipment.—May—August—Sellers.
Tone of Sugar—Steady.

Rubber :—

Para Rubber 2/10—Sellers.

IMPORTS OF TREASURE.

Exchange.	Value.	From	Vessel.	Importer.
7 Bundles Ts	Rs. 17,500	Bahrein ...	Goalpara	National Bank
3 Boxes Govt ...	3,210			
Gold Coins ...	2,483	Aden	Caledonia	Sundry Importers.
Rupees	13,[illegible]75			

BOMBAY MARKETS.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.] [[illegible]TH FEBRUARY, 1908.

FINANCIAL.

Money :—

Borrowers for two months at 6 [illegible] per cent. per annum.

Exchange :—

The Market opened unchanged at 1s. [illegible] 29-32d. T. T. and 1s. 3 15-16d. on demand and 1s. [illegible] 4 1-8d. for 3 months' sight Credits. Some Banks still refused to buy under 1s. 4 5-32d 3 months' sight and the market is still supported by bills offered from Calcutta and Rangoon. A few small lots of bills have been offered locally for ready and near forward and have been placed at current rates. Being Council Bill day the Banks as usual close early. For Eastern rates are steady.

We quote :—

T. T. on London ... ... 1s. 3 29-32d.
Demand Draft ... ... 1s. 3 15/16d.
Credits—3 months' sight ... 1s. 4 1/8 to 5/32d.
Do. 6 months sight ... 1s. 4 1/8 to 9/32d.
Do. 3 months' sight—France 169 1/4
Do. 3 months' sight—Marks 123 1/4
Hongkong—30 days' sight ... 141
Yokohama—30 days' sight ... 131
Shanghai—30 days' sight ... 199
Government Paper.

The Market opened steady at 96 1-4 ready and for the settlement and 96 7-16 for the second settlement. Business so far has been on small lines but rates close steady. Calcutta market is advised as 96 1-8 ready and 96 3-8 for delivery forward in a month.

We quote :—

Cash ... ... Rs. 96-4
1st Settlement... ... ... „ 96-4
2nd Settlement ... ... „ 96-7

Bullion :—

On Tuesday Bar silver in London again closed firmer the quotations being 1-8 up at 25 13-16 ready and 25 7-8 for delivery forward in two months. New York was up 1-4 at 55 7-8. Locally the market opened at 66 11-16 ex-duty but further heavy purchases are reported in London yesterday on Indian account and this has tended to ease prices locally. Ready bars close at 66 5-16 ex-duty and 65 15-16 for the settlement. Bar gold is steady.

We quote :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
English Bar Gold	24	8	0
Australian Bar Gold	24	7	0
Bombay Bar Gold	24	3	0
English Shield Sovereigns	15	2	0
English Dragon Sovereigns	15	3	0
Silver ex Duty—Ready	66	5	0
Ditto 1st Settlement ...	65	15	0

COTTON.

Market Report :—

The tone of the market is easier, but we have little change to report in prices, quotations in most cases being nominal as there is no business passing. Broach continues fairly steady. Bengals are weak.

In ready cotton there is the same absence of demand, and only a small business was reported at Colaba.

QUOTATIONS :—	Rs.	Delivery.
Fine M. G. Broach ...	275	March
Good M. G. Broach ...	265	„
Fine M. G. Nagpur Kampti	223/4	„
Fine M. G. Damangaum Pulgaon	217	„
Fine M. G. Khangaum Akola	215	„
Fine M. G. Amraoti ...	215	„
Fine M. G. Muttia ...	203	„
F. G. M. G. Khandeish ...	198	„
Fine M. G. Khandeish ...	203	„
Fine M. G. Bengals ...	191/2	„
F. G. H. G. Bengals ...	181	„
Good Westerns ...	225	May
Good Saw Ginned Dharwar	251/2	„

Liverpool Opener :—

Opening Tone... ... ... Steady.
Estimated Sales ... ... 8,000 bales.
Total Imports ... ... 27,000 „

Future Delivery Prices :—

F.-M.	M.-A.	A.-M.	M.-J.	J.-J.
5·55 —02	5·57 —02	5·53 —02	5·59 —01	5·58 —01

J.-A.	A.-S.	S.-O.	O.-N.
5·56 —01	5·48 —01	5·39 —01	5·32 —01

MISCELLANEOUS.

Linseed :—

The market is quiet with litt'e doing.

We quote :—

Ready ... ... Rs. 7 15 0
April-May ... ... „ 8 7 0

Rapeseed :—

The market is easier and prices are declining. There is little demand.

We quote :—

Brown Cawnpore, April-May... Rs. 9 5 0
Yellow Guzerat... „ „ 9 14 0

Gingellyseed :—

The market is weak with no demand.

We quote :—

Bold White... ... 85 per cent Rs. 54 0 0
Muggy ... ... „ 52 0 0
Yellow Hinganghat ... „ 55 0 0

Poppyseed :—

April-May .. .. Rs. 10 13 0
Tone—Easier.

Castorseed :—

Ready Rs. 33 0 0 Apl.-May Rs. 34 0 0
Tone—Quiet.

Cottonseed :—

Rs. 25 12 0
Tone—Steady.

Groundnuts—

Rs. 44 0 0
Tone—Easier.

Wheat :—

White Delhi, Apl.-May Rs. 5 13 6
Tone—Easier.

THE SHARE MARKET.

Banks :—

Bombay 1,370
India ... ... 60 X. D.
Indian Specie Bank ... ... 53 C. D.

Mills :—

Century 1,950
David 385
Empress 380
Manockji Petit 3,290

Presses :—

New Mofussil 595

Miscellaneous :—

Badham Pile & Co. 129
Colaba Land and Mill... ... 1,030

Railways :—

Ahmedabad-Prantej 565
Amritsar-Patti 115
Tapti-Valley 427 1/2

RECEIPTS.

The following are the receipts of Cotton and Produce into Bombay during the 24 hours ended at 6 p.m. yesterday :—

Cotton	13,736 bales.
Wheat	1,462 cwts.
Linseed	515 „
Rapeseed	285 „
Gingellyseed	5,527 „
Poppyseed	nil
Groundnuts	851 „
Castorseed	11,070 „
Rice	10,169 „
Myrabollams	19,194 „
Cottonseed	22,618 „
Mowrassed	1,155 „
Gram	36 „
Joowar	813 „
Maize	1,789 „

Quotations Received by Wire.

MADRAS, FEBRUARY 26.

The following are the Indian Gold Mines quotations received by special cablegram, dated London, 26th instant.

Mines.	Share.	Paid up.	Buyers.	Sellers.
Anantapur Gold	£1	0s.	£0 17 0	£0 18 0
Balaghat (Ord)	£5	7s 6d.	£6 7 0	£6 8 0
Balaghat (Pref)	£10	...	£6 12 0	£6 13 0
Champion Reefs	2s. 6d	2s. 6d.	£0 5 0	£0 7 3
Hutter Gold	£1	15s. 4d.	£0 1 0	£0 1 6½
Dec. G. F. Dev.....	£1	8s. 0d.	£0 0 1½	£0 0 4½
Dhar. Gold Mines ...	£1	£1	£0 10 0	£0 12 6
Dharwar Reefs.....	£1	£1	£0 2 6	£0 4 0
G. F. Mysore	£1	£1	nil	£0 0 3
Glenrock, Ind	10s.	9s. 9d.	£0 0 2	£0 0 2
G. F. Dharwar.....	£1	£1	£0 5 3	£8 6 9
Hutti	£1	£1	£1 8 9	£1 11 3
Hyderabad Dec	£3	£3	£2 2 6	£2 7 6
Ind. Mines Syn	4s.	3s.	£0 0 2	£0 0 7½
Kemphikotti New ..	5s.	5s.	£0 0 7½	£0 0 11
Mysore Gold	10s.	10s.	£5 6 3	£5 8 9
Mysore Reef Ord....	£1	£1	£0 0 1½	£0 0 4½
Mysore West	£1	10s.	£0 0 3	£0 0 7½
Mysore Wynaad	£1	10s.	£0 0 3	£0 0 7½
Nandydroog	10s.	10s.	£1 2 6	£1 3 9
Ooregum (Ord)	10s.	10s.	£0 6 9	£0 7 9
Ooregum (Pref)	10s.	10s.	£0 12 0	£0 13 3
Burma Ruby Mi....	£1	£1	£0 9 9	£0 11 0
Bangli Mines Ld....	£1	18s.	£0 2 9	£0 3 6
Topaldoff	£1	18s.	Nominal	Nominal

HOW TO KEEP COOL

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DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and MEMORIAM NOTICES which must be authenticated by the name and address of the senders, is Re. 1 for six lines or less, and 8 as. for every additional line. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

ASHDOWN—February 20, at Bahraich, the wife of A. D. Ashdown, S. Police, of a daughter.
JACKSON—February 20, at Lucknow, the wife of L. F. Jackson, Asst. Engineer, O. & R. Railway, of a daughter.
RODWELL—February 21, at Simla, the wife of Colonel E. H. Rodwell, Indian Army, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

CROZIER—SMITH—February 18, at Meerut, Percy Beattie Crozier, 4th P. A. V., Rajputs, to Anne Bursiem Smith, by the Rev. Prichard Shaw.

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 7h. 1m. Sun sets, 6h. 43m. High water, 6-10m., 8-35a. Low water, 54m., 1-2a.
Municipal Corporation, 3-39 p. m.
Grand Automobile Show and Motor Gymkhana, Marine Lines.
Bombay Club, half-yearly general meeting, 6-30 p. m.
Volkarts United Press Company, 7 Marine Street, 3-30 p. m.
Empire Theatre, Amateur Theatricals in aid of the Children's Sanatorium at Versova, 9-30 p.m.
Skating Rink, Esplanade, 9-30 p. m.
Excelsior Cinematograph, Esplanade, 7 p. m., 8-30 p.m., and 10 p. m.

THE WEEK'S CALENDAR.

Friday, February 28.—Empire Theatre, Amateur Theatricals, 9-30. Grand Automobile Show and Motor Gymkhana, Marine Lines, 4 to 11 p.m. Bombay Millowners' Association, adjourned meeting, 3 p. m. P. and O. steamer "Persia," with English mails of 14th instant., due to arrive at 5 a.m. Sun rises, 7h. 0m. Sun sets, 6h. 44m. High water, 7-48m., 9-33a. Low water, 2-39m., 2-24a.
Saturday, February 29.—Royal Bombay Yacht Club Regatta, Bombay Extra Races. Sun rises, 6h. 59m. Sun sets, 6h. 44m. High water 9-9m., 10-21a. Low water, 3-42m., 3-24a.
Sunday March 1.—Quinquagesima Sunday. B. V. A. Camp closes, Mahaluxmi Battery. Sun rises, 6h. 59m., Sun sets, 6h., 44m., High water, 10-13m., 11-4a., Low water, 4-30m., 4-16a.
Monday March 2.—Royal Bombay Yacht Club Regatta, Bank Holiday. Sun rises, 6h. 58m., Sun sets, 6h 45m, High water, 11-7m, 11-44a, Low water, 5-12m., 55a.
Tuesday, March 3.—Royal Bombay Yatch Club Regatta. Byculla Club, half yearly general meeting, 10 p. m. Chamber of Commerce, balloting for three Elective Port Trustees, 10 a.m. to 4 p. m. Conversazione, Bombay Art Society, Town Hall, in presence of H. E. the Governor, 9-30 p. m. Sun rises, 6h. 57m.; Sun sets, 6h. 45m. High water 11-55m.; Low water, 5-52m., 5-51a.

HON. MR. PAREKH ROBBED.—The Hon. Mr. G. K. Parekh has reported to the police the theft of currency notes and cash of the value of Rs. 600 from his sitting room in his house in Depot Lane, Girgaum.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Ceylon, Singapore, China, Japan and Australia per s.s. "Dumbia" will be closed at the General Post Office at 7-30 p.m. on Friday the 28th current. Parcel mail for French-China, Netherlands, India and Japan close at 5-30 p.m., the same day.

THE BOMBAY LADIES' BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION.—A Lecture will be given by Professor N. Fraser on "Burma" to-day, at 5-30 p. m. (S.T.), at the residence of Mrs. Fazalbhoy Currumbhoy, The Crescent, Pedder Road, kindly lent for the occasion Purdah arrangements will be made. Members are invited to bring a lady friend.

THEFT OF CURRENCY NOTES.—Khimji Talaksi, a Mehta in the employ of Haji Abdul Sattar Haji Walid Mahomed, a Commission Agent having his place of business in Nagdevi Street, has reported to the police the theft of five currency notes of Rs. 1,000 each and some cash from his pehdi on Tuesday evening. A newly employed servant, who has disappeared, is suspected of having committed the theft.

BHENDY BAZAR RIOTS.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Inspector Stenson charged Vazir Mahomed, Abdul Kader Gulzar, Fakir Mahomed Ibrahim and five other Mahomedans with rioting on the 13th instant. Mr. Stenson in applying for a postponement of the case stated that the police havildar, the police sepoys and other principal witnesses were in hospital and were not able to attend. The application was granted and the accused were enlarged on bail.

COLLISION WITH ELECTRIC TRAM CAR.—Shortly after eleven o'clock yesterday morning an electric tram car, which had been disabled, was being pushed from behind by another electric car near the Floral Fountain, when hack victoria No. 1479 attempted to cross the tram track in front of it. The car ran into the gharry with considerable force. The driver of the victoria was thrown off and fell unconscious on the road. The gharry was damaged, but the occupants escaped unhurt. The victoria driver was removed to the G. T. Hospital for treatment.

EXCELSIOR CINEMATOGRAPH.—To-morrow night and on Saturday will be the last two occasions, on which the Public of Bombay will have the opportunity of witnessing the exhibition of this fine Cinematograph, as the Company leave Bombay on Sunday for other parts. They are to be congratulated on the success which has attended the show here during the past four months, which has undoubtedly been due to its excellence, and those who have not hitherto been able to witness it, should take advantage of the exhibitions to be given to-morrow and on Saturday.

THE B.S.P.C.A.—During the month of January last 5 horses, 1 bullock, and buffalo were sent to the Pinjrapole as being unfit for work, at the instance of the Agents of the Bombay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals with the permission of the Presidency Magistrates and with the consent of the owners; while 8 horses and 50 bullocks, 2 buffaloes were sent to the Bai Sakarbai Dinsha Petit Hospital for Animals at Parel for curative treatment during the last month. 303 offenders were fined for cruelty to their animals, 100 cartmen were fined for overloading their carts and 28 offenders were warned and discharged by the Magistrates.—In the cruelty cases prosecuted by the Agents at Bandra during January last 17 offenders were fined for cruelty to their animals, and 2 offenders were warned and discharged by the Magistrate.

INSULTING A BARRISTER.—Yesterday, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. Aston, Mr. Dhanjishaw Dorabji, Barrister-at-Law, charged one Dinshaw Sorabji with insult. Mr. Hormuzdiar Dastoor, Pleader, appeared for the complainant. It appeared from evidence that the accused was declared a tout by the Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes some time ago. He thought that complainant was instrumental in bringing about that result and on happening to see complainant at the window of his chamber in Kalbadevie Road on the 7th instant abused him from the Road, called him a coward, challenged him to come down and threatened him. The accused said he was drunk at the time. The accused was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 30, in default to undergo three weeks' rigorous imprisonment, and was bound over in the sum of Rs. 15 to be of good behaviour for six months.

MR. SHEDDON PAXTON, the Organisor of Indian Branch of Moral Instruction League, is now in Calcutta and invites co-operation in a movement which is to have its central offices in Calcutta for encouraging non-theological moral instruction in Indian schools.

VICTORIA JUBILEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

Annual Prize-Giving.

The distribution of awards, scholarships, prizes, certificates and medals to the students of the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Byculla, Bombay, was held yesterday in the Town Hall, the Hon'ble Mr. Dunn presiding. Among those seated on the platform were :—Sir Jamsetji Jijibhoy, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chandavarkar, Mr. W. D. Sheppard, Khan Bahadur M. C. Murzban, Mr. B. D. Petit, Mr. Fazulbhoy Karimbhoy, Mr. Rustomji Byramji Jijibhoy, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Mr. D. S. Dawson, Principal of the Institute, Mr. Nanabhoy Ardeshir Moos, and others.

The Chairman regretted that it was not found possible for the Hon. Mr. Jenkins to be present. He then addressed the assembly as follows :—

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

At the annual meeting two years ago I took the opportunity to mention at some length the various developments and improvements which had been recently introduced or were then projected and on the occasion of the last meeting I indicated the progress made in different directions. During the current year the Institute undertook at the suggestion of Government a further development of the Mechanical Engineering section with a view to provide suitable instruction in Motor Car Mechanicss and it is now my pleasing duty to report the satisfactory completion of most of our schemes of extension and improvement.

Foremost amongst these, both in point of time and importance, was the establishment of the Central Electric Power Station, the first of its kind in India which was undertaken at the instance of Mr. Dawson, the head of the Mechanical Engineering Department and now Principal of the Institute, for the more efficient and economical working of the machinery of the different departments and for the practical instruction of the students in the most modern types of steam and electric power plant. The trustees spared no expense to make this as complete and up-to-date as possible in order that the Institute may be in a position to maintain a high standard of efficiency and also to give the practical training considered necessary for examinations under the Bombay Boiler Act. I referred fully on the last occasion to the generous gifts we received in connection with this installation. This station was opened, as you are aware, by His Excellency Lord Lamington, twelve months ago, and I am glad to be able to say that it has admirably fulfilled all the expectations of the Board.

I would next refer to the scheme for providing quarters for students, specially for those who come from places distant from Bombay. The buildings which consist of two blocks each capable of accommodating 100 students with separate cooking and dining rooms, were completed three months ago at a total cost of about Rs. 100,000. The buildings which are now in occupation are constructed throughout in reinforced concrete, and one thoroughly sanitary and fire-proof.

A new building was commenced and completed during the year for the location of the pattern-making shop. Owing to the increase in the number of students attending the Mechanical Engineering branch it was found impossible to properly accommodate them all in the old shop, which has now been made an addition to the foundry. The new pattern-shop affords room for about 80 students working simultaneously and it has been provided with the additional furniture and fittings which were necessary to meet the requirements of the increased number of students.

On the last occasion I was able to report that the building of the Chemical Laboratory and the addition to the Textile School were practically complete. The little finishing up that then remained undone was attended to, and both have been in use for the last twelve months.

In addition to these extensive building operations, the adequate equipment of the departments, the strengthening of the teaching staff, the remodelling of the courses of instruction and the arrangements for the more satisfactory conduct of the examinations, have also received the very careful attention of the Board.

HOSTELS FOR STUDENTS.

The Board gave prolonged and anxious consideration to the important question, of the appointment of a Principal in place of Dr. Manockjee, and having regard to the special requirements of the Institute and having duly weighed the qualifications and experience of the applicants with reference thereto, they came to the conclusion that the best interests of the Institute would be served by the appointment as Principal of Mr. T. S. Dawson who has served the Institute for six years with admitted zeal, energy and ability and had fully established his claim for special consideration. Mr. Dawson has for two years held the post of Vice-Principal, and he has acted as Principal for two periods aggregating about 18 months, during which the work of the Institute was carried on with remarkable smoothness and efficiency. The Board feel assured that the staff as now composed is worthy of the Institute which claims to be the first of its kind in India.

The students of the Institute have also obtained marked success at the examinations held on behalf of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

These results are no doubt partly due to the improved quality of students entering the Institute and to the satisfactory attendance in the classes and the workshop. The minimum percentage of attendance qualifying for examination is 75 and the actual attendance has been about 85 per cent. in the case of the great majority of the 387 students (exclusive of the motor students) whose names appeared on the roll this year.

I mentioned at the outset of these remarks the scheme for the motor mechanics section. I may state that it provides the instruction of three classes, viz., (1) Those actually employed in Motor Car work, (2.) Those who desire to qualify for such employment, and (3.) Private owners of cars who desire to know something of the mechanism and driving of their machines.

The lecture classes for private owners are held in the Fort and practical demonstrations are given at the Institute. The course covers a period of three months only. The other two classes are held at the Institute and are attended at present by 24 students. As a valuable help in the work of instruction cars are received at the Institute for adjustment and repair to a limited extent. The Principal reports that the section is working well under the superintendence of Mr Harper whose services have been engaged as the Head of this section.

The greater portion of the initial cost of this department was provided by Government who have also very generously contributed to the costly schemes to which I have referred, which involve in all a total initial expenditure of over Rs. 2,00,000 and an increase in the recurring expenditure of about Rs. 25,000. Their own resources being of a non-elastic nature, the Board would have been unable to finance all their schemes alone and I desire on their behalf to express their sense of gratitude for the assistance afforded by Government and by those mill-owners who as generously subscribed towards increased equipment for practical work. I have also to express the Board's thanks to Government and the Municipality for the increase annual grants which will enable them to meet the recurring charges. Never during the last twenty years. I believe, was there such practical expression of cordial sympathy and support from all quarters in the work of the Institute and the Trustees earnestly hope that these conditions will long continue to the undoubted benefit of the Institute and of Technical Education upon the advancement of which depends the material prosperity of the country.

The chairman then distributed the awards, scholarships, prizes, certificates and medal, to the successful students.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chandavarkar in proposing a vote of thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Dunn said that the students must congratulate themselves on the fact that the prizes were distributed to them by a man like the Hon'ble Mr. Dunn. The success of the Institute was due to a number of causes, one of which was that it had as its Chairman, the Hon'ble Mr. Dunn, who in spite of his avocations found time to work for the Institute, and who possessed a serenity of temper which was admirable and enviable. (Applause.)

Sir Bhalchandra Krishna in seconding the proposition said the Hon'ble Mr. Dunn was performing his duties to the satisfaction both of the Government and the Public. The Institute was unique in India.

The proposition was carried with acclamation.

The Hon'ble Mr. Dunn, in reply, said that he was deeply grateful to them for the kind and appreciative words they had uttered about him. The Chairmen, he said, would come and go, but the work of the Institute would continue. Their best thanks were due to their indefatigable Secretary Mr. Moos. (Applause).

The proceedings then terminated.

MR. JAMES ANDREW,

Ordered Home by the Doctors.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, FEBRUARY 26.

The Hon'ble Mr. James Andrew, Acting 4th Member, Board of Revenue and Commissioner of Land Revenue, has suddenly been ordered home on medical advice and leaves for Colombo on 13th March. No arrangements have yet been made as to a successor.

Mr. Andrew has just completed the enquiry conducted at the instance of the Secretary of State in connection with the Government Ophthalmic Hospital.

THE MOTOR GYMKHANA.

THERE was no end of fun at the Show last night. One of the competitions was facetiously named "the Academy Stakes," and it abounded in mirth. The driver of each car had to dash up to a blackboard, open an envelope containing the name of an animal, then draw the animal on the board, and wait till a lady had guessed the species of animal before restarting his car. The competition was done on time and was screamingly funny. The first competing car was driven by Mr. Harper, who had to draw a bear. His idea of a bear may be guaged from the fact that one bystander observed, "Its a duck!" while a lady with an artistic eye whispered "No, no, its an elephant!" Mr. Harper's "bear" was certainly as good as any of the other drawings, however, and may be he won the prize. Young Mr. Currimbhoy had to draw a pig; an irony which drew immense laughter. The smart young Khoja managed to depict an almost recognisable "teg," however. The best drawing from an artistic point of view was that of the chauffeur of the Richard Brazier car, who had to draw a deer; and, like a Frenchman, he drew it not only recognisably but added the spots and antlers with a dexterity unusual in members of his craft. Mr. Davar entered, but instead of drawing an animal, he chalked a portrait of Mr. N. M. Marshall, in his motor cap and "imperiale." The drawing was crude, but everybody spotted it in a twinkle, and a pretty squabble followed, a member of the Committee taking very unnecessary umbrage at what was a very harmless joke. Recriminations followed; a Committee meeting was called, and a veritable storm in a tea-cup ensued. This was really the funniest thing of the whole show. It ought to be depicted on the blackboard.

Besides the "Academy Stakes" there was an interesting starting and stopping competition; curious races in which the passengers carried glasses of water, the best filled glasses at the end of the race winning the prizes. Some of the events were not run off at midnight and will be taken to-day.

To-days events at 5 o'clock are :—

GLASS OF WATER RACE.—First event, two-seated cars under 10 h. p.; second event, 4 seated cars. The full complement of passengers to be on board. Each passenger is to carry a glass of water. Winner will be the car which arrives with most water. The first car in with most water will beat later arrivals. Cars to stop once between two lines marked on course and go on again immediately. Course and distance, once round.

POLICE TRAP RACE.—Competitors to make a complete circuit of the course at a given speed, the winner to be the one whose speed most nearly approximates with that arranged for. No watches or clocks or speedometers may be carried unless properly covered up.

BOMB RACE (see also No. 11).—Competitors to drive a given course and burst bombs (balloons) laid at intervals. The first home with the largest number of bombs to his credit wins. No second attempt at a bomb allowed. Time limit given at start.

POTATO RACE.—Competitors to start from the boundary, drive round the course, dropping potatoes into the various flower pots placed round the course. N.B.—Cars must not be stopped.

APPEARANCE COMPETITION.—For Trades, Class 4. Instructions to Judges.—The engine, gear-box and other machinery is to be examined. Condition of tyres or varnish of bodies are to be considered. The coach-work, the colour of paint and upholstery, lamps, folding seats, luggage and tyre carriers are to be judged, and the effect of the whole, from front, back and sides to be considered. Cars to be judged as they stand (without hoods or with hoods down). Cars to be further considered as they move with and without lady passengers.

APPEARANCE COMPETITION.—Private Owners, Class 4 Instructions to Lady Judges.—The engine, gear-box and other machinery is not to be examined. Condition of tyres or varnish of bodies are not to be considered. The canopy, hood, lamps, coach work, colour of paint and upholstery, folding-seats, covering over driver's seat, luggage and tyres carriers are to be judged, and the effect of the whole, from front, back and sides to be considered. Cars will be judged as they stand also while moving empty as well as with lady passengers.

THE TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The First Statutory General Meeting of the Share holders of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited was held on Tuesday at 3 p. m. at the Registered Office of the Company, Navsari Buildings, Fort, Bombay, Mr. D. J. Tata the Chairman of the Board presiding.

In proposing the adoption of the Report, the Chairman expressed his satisfaction that a Company on such a scale had been successfully launched for the first time in India. It marked an epoch in the industrial history of India by placing her in the ranks of the iron producing countries of the world. It had been said that the prosperity of a country could be gauged by the state of its iron industry. It was to be hoped that India had thus entered upon a new era of prosperity. He pointed out that this enterprise was not wanting in the various elements that make for success viz., first an abundant supply of some of the richest iron ore in the world, which owing to its geographical position and physical condition could be quarried cheaply and put down at the works at a very low cost; secondly good coking fuel and pure flux within easy reach; thirdly the possibility of procuring abundant cheap unskilled labour, in addition to efficient skilled labour and supervision being available owing to the Company's ability to produce on a large scale. There was the further advantage of a suitable site with good foundations and an abundant water supply. But above all the Company was very fortunate in having a sympathetic Government at the head of affairs which had by granting cheap freight, and by undertaking to build a broad-gauge railway connecting the site of works with the orefields, besides promising to buy 2,0,000 tons of rails a year had materially helped the prospects of the Company. During the long interval that elapsed between the granting of the concession and floatation of the Company the Government had shown a patience worthy of all praise and had not failed to put every facility in the way of the promoters. After giving a brief history of the origin of the Company the Chairman referred to the previous attempts made to establish iron works in India notably that of Heath in Madras and the Bengal Iron and Steel Co. at Barakar, as well as to the report made by Schwartz, over 30 years ago, to the Central Provinces Government for the Establishment of an iron industry in Chanda. Some general indication was then given by the Chairman as to the products and the nature of the plant to be put up. Reference was made to the presence, on the ground, of Mr. Sahlin, a partner in the firm of Messrs. Julian Kennedy Sahlin and Co., the construction Engineers, and the Company was congratulated on having secured in this firm and in Mr. C. P. Perin their Consulting Engineer some of the most capable advisers in America. Attention was drawn to the reference in the report about the change of site and it was pointed out that the Directors hoped to make a considerable saving thereby. It was announced that work was being pushed on, there being 500 workmen already on the spot and buildings were being erected which would be ready for occupation before the rains and orders for some necessary plant were about to be placed.

The report was unanimously adopted. Mr. P. D. Pattani was re-elected a Director and the appointment of Messrs. A. F. Ferguson and Co., and Mr. N. A. Dalal as Auditors was confirmed.

Mr. Fazulbhoy Currimbhoy in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman congratulated the Shareholders on their having as Agents such a well-known firm as that of Messrs. Tata Sons and Co. In referring to

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Postal letters and covers should be addressed BOX 209, GENERAL POST OFFICE, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Gazette.

THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 1908.

AUSTRALIAN MARITIME DEFENCE.

UNDER the Australian Government scheme of universal military training, in eight years there will be 214,000 men trained and equipped for war, and, public opinion having approved this scheme, greater attention is now being paid to the subject of the navy. A newspaper agitation has commenced and our leading Melbourne contemporary reviews the various proposals which have been brought forward. The Commonwealth, we are told, demands the nucleus of an Australian Navy, subject entirely to Australian control, manned by Australian seamen, to be employed solely on the defensive and capable of protecting Australian commerce from the raids of marauding cruisers. This is the general idea and with the object of carrying it into effect many schemes have been propounded. "Most of them," says our contemporary's writer, "are dead or discredited, simply because they were framed to meet other needs than those of Australia, were promoted by personal interests rather than patriotism, or failed to appreciate a widespread Australian sentiment." The first scheme of which serious note was taken was one propounded by Captain Cresswell, Director of Naval Forces, which provided for the nucleus of an Australian fleet, consisting of three cruisers, sixteen torpedo-boat destroyers, and fifteen torpedo-boats to be acquired within seven years, at a total estimated cost for construction and maintenance of £2,300,000. Captain Cresswell calculated that this would "provide a defence, not designed as a force for action against hostile fleets or squadrons, which is the province of the Imperial fleet—a purely defensive line that will give security to our naval bases, popular centres, principal ports and commerce." In 1906 Captain Cresswell modified his scheme and, in a report he prepared, said that under an arrangement to relinquish the responsibility for all sea defence beyond the range of fortress artillery, the Commonwealth "has no power of action afloat and is incapable of effort to assist attack in the only way in which it can be met with advantage—on the seas surrounding our coasts. It leaves the country without any means whatever of affording a measure of protection to interests at once the most valuable and vital to our daily business—interests the most exposed to an enemy—a floating trade worth a hundred and twenty millions per annum. To restrict our sea defences to the protection of ports by fortress artillery would be no defence of trade. Beyond the range of these batteries ports can be sealed to traffic by the most insignificant enemy and the sea trade, the life of the ports for which they alone exist, be either captured or made to cease. . . The Imperial fleet can give much but not complete protection. To do so would weaken its strategy and effectiveness. . . The solution is an Australian force supplementary to the Imperial fleet supplied by Australia for specially Australian duty and to act in intimate co-operation with the Imperial fleet."

In support of his contention Captain Cresswell urged that under existing conditions any prolonged interruption to the line of communications with Great Britain would cut Australia off from the source of all her fighting material. He therefore held that an axiom should be the production in Australia of every war requisite, the adoption of measures making step by step for self-dependence in war. It was a bold scheme, but it was not without some public opinion behind it. The Federal Government, however, did not see eye to eye with Captain Cresswell and appealed for guidance to the Imperial Defence Committee, a body which being "composed of Imperial experts could not be expected to have any sympathy with Australian aspirations." The Melbourne *Age* declares that Imperial Officers employed by Australian Governments have always shown a determination to train and equip Australian forces, not for the defence of Australia, but for fighting British battles in any part of the Empire. Considering our unity of interests that would seem legitimate enough, but Australia is not prepared for Imperial Federation and does not fully recognise the necessity for undertaking any which will not benefit herself exclusively. Hence we need not be surprised that Australians find a grievance in the belief that Imperial officers employed by the Australian Governments have displayed the professional officer's contempt for citizen forces and have chosen to regard Australia as a kind of recruiting ground for the Imperial Service. The Imperial Defence Committee's recommendations did not attach the importance to Captain Cresswell's scheme that many Australians did, and it is felt by the critics of the Defence Committee that they were wrong when they "found in effect that Australia could not be guaranteed against attack by unarmoured commerce raiders up to four in number. The losses these cruisers would inflict, it was held, would not be of more than secondary importance. The Committee supplied detailed recommendations for the maintenance of fixed defences at Fremantle, Port Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane, Normanby Sound (Torres Strait) and Hobart, but in regard to the real question of naval defence adopted the view of Australian Conservatives that, being weak, Australia had no justification for trying to become strong. It took the stereotyped and discredited view that Australia should continue to helplessly cling to the mother country's apron strings."

It was not altogether bad advice, less offensively expressed, and not a few friends of Australia, as well as naval experts will hesitate to pronounce the employment of a naval force as a purely defensive line, to be, as the Imperial Defence Committee described it, a misapplication of maritime power opposed to every sound principle of naval strategy." Australian patriots need not complain of any desire to undervalue their aims and belittle their efforts because the Defence Committee expressed the opinion that to "act deliberately on the defensive, and to organise naval forces with this object in view, is to adopt voluntarily the policy which is of necessity forced upon the weaker naval power. Australia need not be reduced to assuming such a role as long as she is a member of an Empire which is the strongest naval power in the world, and which extends naval protection, not only to the home land and to the most distant of the King's dominions beyond the seas, but also to all commerce sailing under the British flag. . . The natural and legitimate aspiration in Australia to furnish a distinctively Australian element to the sea power of the Empire will find a satisfactory realisation in increasing degree when the scheme, still in its infancy, initiated by the naval agreement of 1903, has had time to take full effect." That view found favour with Mr. Deakin's Government which apparently recognised the danger of an amateur navy. But their opponents' protest that the needs of Australia have been overlooked in favour of the needs of the British Navy and that, if the scheme were persevered with, it would be competent for the Admiralty in time of war to order away the Australian naval forces to any part of the seas, still leaving Australia and its commerce at the mercy of hostile rovers. It would not be of much service in time of war either to Australia or the Empire if the colonial fleet was not placed under the orders of the British Admiral. An independent fleet, such as some Australians would have, would be a danger to the country in the event of war and conceivably a source of weakness to the British Admiral. But the Colonial wants everything to be Australia for the Australians and will not, if he can help it, play second fiddle to any Britisher. A spirit of independence is to be encouraged where it is rational, but in the present case it is nothing less than foolish. If the ports be defended and the proposed "mosquito" fleet be provided, there need be no fear for proper defence of Australia's maritime interests by the British Navy. But what they most fear, it seems, is "the depredations of some roving cruiser whose object is the capture of merchant steamers and the destruction of trade," so they cry out for battleships and cruisers and destroyers of their own, under the orders of no one but themselves and—we hope they will not get it. Australia cannot stand alone yet and although impatient to run, it would do well to hold on to the maternal apron-string for as long as it is permitted to. The Australian is naturally somewhat head-strong and the agitation now started may lead to excitement and to the defeat of Mr. Deakin's Government, but to set up a navy, or the nucleus of a navy of her own, such as Captain Cresswell desires, would be a mistake of the utmost magnitude.

PURE MILK. THERE are few problems more difficult than that of the supply of pure milk, although the importance of it cannot be over-estimated, since it forms one of the principal articles of diet of all classes of the community. Although there is legislation prohibiting adulteration either for preservative or colouring purposes this touches but the fringe of the subject, for the greatest dangers do not lie in the mere addition of extraneous matter but are purely of an inherent nature, for no other food is so liable to contamination or so susceptible to changes of climate. For many years scientists have been seeking for a method of presenting milk in a concentrated form. The end aimed at has been to give milk in the form of a powder and this is easily obtained by pouring or passing the fresh milk over a heated plate or rolls, the water being driven off in the form of steam, leaving the solids encrusted upon the surface, from which they are removed by scraping. Such a system, however, possesses many disadvantages, the greatest of which is that the character of some of the previously suspended solids is quite altered under the influence of the heat. This disadvantage engaged the attention of Dr. Ekenberg, a Swedish scientist and food expert, and to overcome it he invented an entirely new apparatus which has been thoroughly tested in Sweden. The *modus operandi* is very simple. The milk is first submitted to straining through a cotton filter; its temperature is then reduced to nearly freezing-point, preparatory to drying. Pasteurisation is here carried out in compliance with the law—that is, if it has not already been so treated at the dairy, which is the general procedure in the country before delivery. The crux of the invention lies in the comparatively low temperature at which drying is completed, this being effected at blood-heat, or about one hundred degrees Fahrenheit. The drying appliance consists of a revolving cylindrical drum known as the exsiccator, lined with nickel, which has been found to be the most suitable metallic substance upon which to deposit the milk solids, since the other commercial metals have not sufficient resistance against the chemical action of the milk. The fluid is fed into this drum, through which is carried simultaneously exhaust steam, which in its passage carries off the water in the milk. With the exsiccators now in operation, from one thousand seven hundred to two thousand one hundred pints of milk can be converted into powder per hour. The milk powder deposited upon the metal surface of the drum is scraped with white metal knives into a special receptacle and is then placed in the crystallising chamber where the sugar of milk is crystallised at a temperature of about one hundred degrees Fahrenheit. The milk then looks like castor sugar and, when milled like flour, is ready for use. The invention solves the great question what is to be done with milk skimmed of its cream. The powder made from skimmed milk cannot be used for general purposes any more than the milk itself could have been, but it is quite serviceable for the manufacture of cereals and ordinary cooking, and farmers are now able to reap a double reward from their milk. The powder is bacteria-proof, as has been proved by a complete investigation on this subject, wherein a quantity of milk-powder was exposed to the air in a temperature ranging from sixty to sixty-five degrees Fahrenheit for a week, and no colonies of bacteria in suitable strata mixed with the dry milk were observable. This fact is attributed to the bacteria-destroying influence of the serum-enzyms of the milk during concentration in the vacuum, whereby the enzyms are kept in full activity. Experience on the Continent has shown that owing to the low cost of manufacture (which approximates only one-sixteenth of a penny per gallon—recouped in the lower cost for transportation due to the powdered product occupying only one-tenth of the bulk of natural milk) it is attended by no increase in price to the consumer. At the same time, it brings within the reach of the poorer classes of the community the skimmed article, which is a perfect food, and is even maintained by some scientists to be purer than the whole milk, owing to the cleansing action of the separator.

STORY OF STOESSEL. FEW men in history have experienced such vicissitudes of fortune as has General Stoessel, who has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress for his conduct at Port Arthur. Eighteen months ago it was reported that he had been sentenced to be shot, and this fate has been hanging over his head ever since. The apparently paradoxical telegram sent by Reuter the other day, in which it was stated that Stoessel was not to lose his honour and rights, is not so Gilbertian as it appears. The simple facts of Stoessel's career, greatly summarised, will show this. For several months Stoessel held Port Arthur against the dauntless Japanese. No less than thirty thousand Japanese soldiers fell in the many efforts to take the Fortress. The Japanese possessed every modern contrivance for accomplishing their task, yet after immense loss they actually failed to take it. Stoessel surrendered; but it must be borne in mind that his men within Port Arthur were decimated by disease and want of proper medical comforts; they suffered terribly from the climate and the constant siege; and their General was faced with the fact that however long he might hold out he could obtain no relief, the Russian admirals having long since lost all power in Chinese waters; and that the Japanese were capable of bringing up to the siege as many men as were ever likely to fall in the task. As a defender of Port Arthur Stoessel was Russia's greatest success. He was a consummate engineer. "Stoessel is a bad soldier," said his own commander, Kuropatkin, before the war. "Put him with equal forces against a Gourko or a Skobeleff, and you will find him tricked and cut to pieces within twenty-four hours. But stick him behind one of his own earth-works, where there is no question of manœuvring, and all the forces of earth and hell will not prevail against him." So they sent him to Port Arthur, where he entirely justified his reputation. There is perhaps little doubt that Stoessel had food enough to have held out longer, but surrender was inevitable, relief impossible, and it was therefore an act worthy of a gallant and merciful commander who loved his men to haul down his flag. The sentence passed upon Stoessel should be the reward of some of Russia's incompetent naval commanders who, by succumbing so readily to Admiral Togo, placed poor Stoessel entirely at the mercy of the Japanese.

THE Florio and Rubattino s.s. "Levanzo", from Hongkong, left Penang for Bombay on the 25th instant.

MAHARAJ KUMAR of Cooch Behar left Calcutta on the 25th instant for Japan on a tour round the world.

MR. KEDARNATH of the Allahabad High Court Bar has been killed by falling out of a train at Etawah Station on his way to Agra.

THE "Indian Daily News" hears that Sir Lancelot Hare's leave will be from the 11th of May, for six months.

AT a meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in Calcutta on the 25th instant, a Committee was formed to arrange for starting a Famine Relief Fund there.

IT is reported that French, Belgian and German Esperantists have planned an independent Esperanto State, to be established at Moresnet, between Liege and Aix-la-Chapelle, in Belgium.

THE five Swazi Chiefs who have arrived at Cape Town from their visit to London are reported to be very dejected at the unsuccessful result of their petition, while at the same time appreciative of the kindness and consideration which were shown to them during their sojourn in the British Capital. In an interview they stated that King Edward was "very nice, but he is no business man and relies entirely upon his advisers."

COUNT KAPNIST and another gentleman have been deputed to visit London to investigate the claim of 615 descendants of a certain Polubotko, a former Hetman of Cossacks, against the Bank of England for a sum of 80 millions sterling, which is alleged to have accumulated with the Bank. Polubotko's descendants and representatives of Banks in different parts of Russia and other countries recently concluded a three days' conference at which £600 was voted to cover the expenses of the delegates' visit to London.

THE Arles Railway Company has built a luxuriously fitted-up theatrical car, containing orchestra, the usual accessories, and seating accommodation for an audience of eighty. The car was attached to the Sud express, which runs between Paris and Bordeaux, and a performance given on the train while it was travelling at fifty miles an hour. The experiment was witnessed by a number of specially invited passengers, and, the "Chronicle" says, was voted a success. In a week or two a theatrical company will be established on the Sud express to Madrid, and the French actress will be replaced by Spanish actresses at the frontier.

THE "Times of Ceylon" London Correspondent cabled on the 20th instant:—Regarding Reuter's telegram yesterday, announcing a grave crisis in the rubber trade at Antwerp, I have interviewed Messrs. Lewis and Peat. They state that it is simply the Antwerp medium sorts which are neglected. Manufacturers are using fine Para at the reduced price. Hence the accumulations of mediums at Antwerp. No panic exists and rubber here is held firmly. America is still stagnant, and mills are working half time. At the present time the Para crop is pouring in. This will be finished by May. Consumption in Great Britain during the last three months has been extraordinary. Forced sales may further depress prices; but a great re-action will occur later when supplies fall off in May.

MR. THOMAS CAMPBELL, fishing-vessel owner, who has died at Grimsby at the age of ninety, commenced life as a whelk seller, and worked his way up till he became the largest smack-owner in England. He was one of the founders of Grimsby's fishing trade, and practically controlled the trade in shell-fish.

A PARIS wine-shop keeper named Lemoine shot in the head a policeman whom his daughter insists on marrying. The policeman who is in hospital, states he will not prosecute if Lemoine will consent to the marriage; but Lemoine says he would rather spend twenty years in prison than have a policeman as a son in-law.

MORE than fifty years ago the ship Shakspeare dropped anchor in Port Jackson, after an adventurous, wind-buffeted voyage of eighty-four days from Liverpool. She landed 600 immigrants, who have since spread to all corners of Australia. The jubilee of the arrival of the ship has, the British-Australasian states, been celebrated by a reunion of surviving passengers at Melbourne.

SEVEN competitors entered for prizes offered by the Lydney (Gloucestershire) Farmers' Club for the greatest destruction during the year of starlings and sparrows. The number of heads sent in was 3,800—three times as many as last year. The inducement offered was 3d. per score heads, and a champion prize of 10s. This was won by William Mathews for killing 1,220 birds.

A SWEEP cleaning the chimney of an old house at Lewisham dislodged a quantity of bricks, and with them fell several valuable articles of jewellery, including a pair of silver vases, two watches, and five rings. All the articles were much discoloured, and had, apparently, been hidden for years. The present occupiers have lived in the house for over thirty years.

NOTES ON INDIAN INTERESTS.

THOUGHTS BY A NATIVE THINKER.

THE GOVERNOR ON EDUCATION. H. E. THE GOVERNOR, in his Convocation Address, had the courage to deliver some home-thrusts at the sort of education imparted in India and the natural product of such education. Yet his remarks have been appreciated and endorsed generally by the Indian press. He maintained that it was not effective in the development of character, that moral training is neglected, that the Indian mind, abstract, speculative and metaphysical, needs the discipline and corrective of good scientific training, that Indians cry out for science, but prefer, from mercenary motive, to follow the Arts course at college, that their minds are deficient in accuracy of thought, and soundness of reasoning as well as in the quality of close observation and laborious research. He said all this, and more, in the same strain, but he has wounded no susceptibilities, aroused no indignation, provoked no report. Why? Because there is a note of deep sincerity throughout his address, and the defects are pointed out, not in mere disparagement, but from a tender solicitude for the improvement of the educated classes. Because his discourse, as it strikes me, is the product of much anxious thought, and his deductions are the result of careful reasoning. His Excellency has given a distinct measure of his very exceptional capacity in his weighty pronouncement, which will take a high place among the University addresses.

ITS GENERAL RESULT. The time has arrived, when we Indians, must take stock of the general result of Western education, and set about discovering wherein it is deficient, and how it may be mended so as to turn out better men and better citizens. We must turn our thoughts inwards, and leaving self-love aside, survey our shortcomings impartially. The ordinary product of education, has in its character, a considerable element of froth, volatility and effervescence; and this exists, as we are pleased to think, in a greater degree on the other side of India. Our education, our highest education, gives, after all, a superficial training to the mind. It remains chiefly as a foreign excrescence, without being thoroughly absorbed into the system. There should be evolved out of it a fine, healthy, type, assimilating the best of the West, and retaining, at the same time, the best of the East, as they seem to have done in Japan. It is not so easy here, as in Japan, the conditions being different, and those of India not being so favourable. But as, the Governor has observed, this should be the end and aim of education, and to that end, the system should be amended. We are not altogether to blame for assuming much the shape of the mould in which we are cast. The Universities are attempting to teach too many things at the same time. There is no specializing in particular branches of learning. They turn out glorified clerks in any number. I need not say I am only confining my remarks to the ordinary run of the educated. Science teaching is casual and ephemeral. It should be concentrated in special institutions, manned and equipped like the best ones of Europe. Scientific knowledge will be the pioneer of industrial development, and this, again, will produce men whose one aim and ambition will not be to enter the public service.

MILL-OWNERS ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF BOMBAY. The Bombay Mill-owners' Association views the question of the Improvement of Bombay in quite a different light from that of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. It will tax the powers of the Government to the utmost to evolve, out of the variety of conflicting opinions which will be advanced by different bodies, a comprehensive scheme which will reconcile all interests, and answer to the requirements of the city, at least for the next twenty-five years. The Chamber warmly espoused the Back Bay scheme with the consequent uprooting of the railway line south of Grant Road. The mill-owners would put this project entirely in the background, if not reject it altogether. They profess deep concern for the poor, and in their opinion, clearing the Mahim woods and planting a town there will meet the requirments of rich and poor alike. The front line facing the sea may be dotted with villas for the rich; the line behind it would suit the means of the middle classes, and a third section still further in might provide quarters for work-people. Sir Sassoon David expatiated on the advantages of the proposed Marina at Back Bay, arguing that if accommodation were provided there for the wealthy, there would be a general move up, the man of smaller means taking the place of those who would occupy the Sea-face, others, again, in a lower rank taking the place of these latter, and so on, until the poor, too, would come in for a share of the benefit to be derived from the general redistribution. I am afraid the benefit promised under this arrangement to the lower classes would be remote and exiguous. I should nevertheless favour the Back Bay scheme, provided that the railway was retained and priority was given to such improvements as might effect the greatest good of the greatest number, and unfortunately, it is not the rich who comprise the greatest number anywhere in the world. There was a becoming air of disinterestedness in the observation of one or two mill-owners at the meeting where the subject was discussed, that the rich can take care of themselves very well. They were anxious to minister to the wants of the poor, who lived in insanitary houses, huddled together in congested areas. The problem which confronts us cannot be solved by adopting an isolated plan that would be but partially effective. To be solved satisfactorily, it should be dealt with comprehensively. There will necessarily be an interdependence between various schemes, each having the effect of acting and reacting on the other. This is a question in which all classes and interests are equally interested, and, therefore, it should be the very last to be treated in a partisan spirit, espousing the cause of a particular interest, and advocating a particular scheme, to the exclusion of others. A big, all-embracing, scheme will, of course, entail an enormous expenditure which would be a serious burden on the taxpayer, as Mr. Wacha apprehends, if it were to be borne entirely by him. But I think it will be possible to finance it so that the present generation may bear an equitable share of the cost, and the rest may be distributed over the next generation or two. It is only fair that our descendants should be laid under contribution for the splendid heritage they will enjoy of a beautiful, well laid out and healthy city. We must not look up to Government altogether for the relief which is desired in respect of accommodation. Their efforts must be supplemented by private building syndicates catering especially for the well-to-do. Mill-owners, who are so concerned for the poor, might provide dwellings at a moderate rent for their own employes, contenting themselves with a return of 4 per cent on their investment. This will not involve much self-sacrifice on their part, and, at the same time, the provision of fairly comfortable, sanitary, dwellings for their work-people will keep them in better health, and consequently render them better able to stand their long working hours. They will thus be capable of turning out more work, and will be less inclined to dawble over it, or to take a frequent holiday to their native home. This will be a benefit, in the long run, to the mill-owners themselves.

CHEAP DWELLINGS FOR PARSIS. It is well-known to everybody that the Parsis are particularly regardful of their own poor. Out of the immense funds under its control, the Panchayet helps the indigent in various ways, and there are also other charitable funds for their relief. They are also provided with free education and gratuitous medical aid, and a Parsi General Hospital will be an accomplished fact in about a year. Cheap sanitary dwellings for the poor is a crying want, and with the exorbitant rents ruling at present, it has become most urgent. The range of excellent buildings at Tardeo, which owe their existence to the initiave and energy of Khan Bahadur M. C. Murzban, supplies the want of a very small fraction of the Parsi poor. I find from the latest report issued by him that there are in all 22 buildings, providing room for 550 persons. The houses are let out at an exceedingly moderate rent which, in the case of widows, is as low as eight annas per month. I have always admired these bright and airy buildings, and the scrupulous cleanliness of the grounds. It is not surprising to learn that the death-rate among the inmates is satisfactorily low, and it is a matter for thankfulness that all these years, the colony has been able to keep the plague at arms' length. Mr. Murzban is generously supplied with funds by benevolent Parsis, and he has a balance of about a lakh and three-quarters available for extending the scope of his operations. He is only awaiting a favourable opportunity to buy additional plots and construct more dwellings. The success achieved by Mr. Murzban has given rise to a similar scheme started by a Parsi Building Society which has commenced work under fairly good auspices. Bai Awabai Petit has also provided some quarters for poor families, and Bai Jerbai Nowroji Wadia has purchased an extensive plot of land at Parel with the same object. I want to point their example for imitation to the other Indian communities in this city. I quite recognise that such benevolent enterprises are more practicable and more easy of accomplishment, where a community is small and compact. If the Hindus, for instance, desire to go in for cheap dwellings, each caste or sect should start with a separate project of its own. Owing to their numbers and their division into so many castes and denominations, a catholic and comprehensive scheme for all is simply impossible.

THE STREE BODH JUBILEE. The series of demonstrations organized in connection with the "Stree Bodh" Jubilee culminated last week in the evening entertainment presided over by H. E. Sir George Clarke. Viceroys and Governors were among the exalted personages who were glad to send messages of sympathy. Friends of the magazine had gone far afield to enlist interest on its behalf. The Shakespeare Reading Society of England expressed a generous sympathy, and if the Browning Society had been approached, I am sure it would have been equally responsive. Queen Alexandra has been graciously pleased to accept the dedication of the Stree Bodh Jubilee Memorial Volume, and the important news was wired to India by Reuter. The success which has attended the celebration, and the importance with which it was invested speak a great deal for the enthusiasm of the conductors of the magazine, and for the skill with which it was engineered. Just living through fifty years is no praise, in itself. But the life of the "Stree Bodh" has been eminently decent and respectable throughout. It was not, indeed, given to it to play an important part in the promotion of social reform; its zeal was perforce circumscribed by its narrow scope and limited circulation; and therefore it would not be fair or accurate to accept "Stree Bodh" and social progress as synonymous terms. It did contribute its own humble mite to the good cause. But there were other forces at work, which were far more important and effective, including some journals which appealed to a wider public and exerted a more strenuous influence. We may, nevertheless, be modestly pleased with the "Stree Bodh" Jubilee, though in the exuberance of our kindly feelings, we must not lose a proper sense of proportion. Mr. Justice Chandavarkar had a clear sense of it, as was evident from the speech which he made in moving a vote of thanks to the Governor. He called to mind the variety of influences which have contributed to social progress. He recalled the names of Professors Green and Paton and Sir Erskine Perry, some of the earnest and sincere Englishmen who had helped and encouraged and co-operated with the early Elphinstonians in their crusade against darkness and superstition. Although we may not attach an exaggerated significance to the achievement of the magazine, I feel thankful for the occasion afforded by its friends for a series of social reunions. Mrs. Muir Mackenzie, who gracefully performed her duty as the head of the Jubilee Committee, gave expression to a wish which Indians will cordially reciprocate, that the celebration may prove a good omen, presaging the growth of friendly feeling between the East and the West. Her own efforts towards a faint realization of this dream are much appreciated by my countrymen.

DION.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

New Secretary Appointed.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the Municipal Standing Committee held yesterday, Mr. Joseph Baptista presided; and there was a full attendance of members.

The Committee considered a letter from Mr. R. P. Masani, Acting Municipal Secretary, requesting that he may be confirmed in the appointment vice Mr. M. N. Wadia, resigned.

The Chairman said that several persons had called upon him to enquire whether the post of Secretary was filled up; intimating that, if it was not, they wished to send in their applications. In such matters, the usual procedure was to invite applications by advertisement in the local papers; but they were at liberty to consider Mr. MacDonald's proposition, of which he had given notice, that Mr. R. P. Masani be appointed Secretary.

Mr. MacDonald did not think it necessary to invite applications, as they had in Mr. Masani a tried, able and conscientious man, whose claim to the appointment should not be overlooked. He proposed that Mr. Masani be appointed in place of Mr. Wadia.

Sir Sassoon David seconded the proposition, remarking in that Mr. Masani they had found an efficient man, who knew his duties well, and performed them with great zeal and ability.

Mr. Dwarkadas Dharamsey said that the Committee was always ready to recognise merit inside the office when it discovered it; and Mr. Masani's instance proved it. He was a capable and hard-working man, and Mr. Dwarkadas was glad to find that his merits were recognised by the Committee.

Dr. Padachanji endorsed what had fallen from the previous speakers, and added that, with ability and conscientiousness in the discharge of his duties Mr. Masani united impartiality and courtesy, and he deserved to be rewarded for his painstaking labours, great energy, and capacity.

Mr. Gell said that Mr. Masani was an able and independent man, and it was desirable that he should be appointed Secretary.

Mr. Jafferbhoy Rahimtulla joined in the chorus of approval at the appointment of Mr. Masani as Secretary.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Kazi Kabiruddin, stating that he strongly supported the appointment of Mr. Masani, which, he hoped, would be made without any delay, as he was the most deserving and capable man.

The proposition was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Mr. Masani, who had retired and returned at this stage of the proceedings, thanked the members of the Committee for their expression of good-will towards him. He had not sufficient words to thank them for the great confidence they placed in him, and he promised to continue to discharge his duties satisfactorily and prove worthy of their confidence.

The Committee adjourned until next Wednesday.

A FEW POINTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Some days ago I called attention to the disgraceful state of the footpaths near the University Gardens and the Sailors' Home. Since the letter appeared I am glad to say that some attempt has been made to clear them, but not altogether successfully. At the latter place the road and the footpath are level, the gutter being filled with dry earth. I also drew attention to the condition of the University Gardens which is nothing more or less than a disgrace to the City. Can no one throw a little water on them? If not, better cover the whole place with oil to keep the dust down.—Yours, etc.

RESIDENT.

TRAMWAY BELLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—May I suggest to the Managers of the Bombay Electric Tramways that they instruct their drivers better as to the use of their alarm gongs? Some of these men appear to imagine the cars will not travel unless they make a noise, and long before daylight as well as after nightfall when the streets are perfectly clear of pedestrians or vehicles they ring their bells unceasingly. It is an insufferable nuisance and unless it is abated I would urge some light sleeper like myself, but with more money, to prosecute the Company for permitting a nuisance.—Yours, &c.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

THE OUTLOOK IN MACEDONIA.

DEBATES IN PARLIAMENT.

The Difficulties of Action.

APPOINTMENT OF A GOVERNOR NECESSARY.

TWO YEARS' FAILURE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

In Parliament last night, debates took place on the situation in Macedonia.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Fitzmaurice admitted that the situation was disappointing and critical, owing to the attitude of the Porte and the disagreement of the Powers.

The Foreign Office, he said, considered the appointment of an independent irremovable Governor, to be the real root of the matter. Owing to failure to persuade the other Powers of the desirability of some of the British suggestions, the Government was at present assuming an observant attitude, but that, he declared, could not last, and Sir Edward Grey, before long would convey suggestions which the necessities of the case required.

In the House of Commons, Mr. George Hardy (Liberal) brought forward a motion regretting the failure of reform in Macedonia and urging the Government to press for the establishment of executive control by an authority which should be responsible to the Powers.

Sir Edward Grey said that separate action by Great Britain was out of the question because it would be ineffective and would entail uncontrollable consequences.

The maintenance of the Concert, he declared, was necessary to the preservation of peace, and it was incumbent on the Powers to make it clear that the recent Railway Schemes did not affect the Concert adversely.

The Foreign Minister continued—"I am convinced that the Macedonian question can be settled if the Concert will only take it seriously in hand. It can be solved if a Governor is appointed.

"The record of the past two years is a record of failure and we are rapidly reaching a point when the Concert must justify or stultify itself.

"Macedonia, if it continues to be neglected, must sooner or later, provoke a catastrophe which can only be avoided by united and decisive action on the part of the Powers and Great Britain will continue to do her utmost to promote that union and determination."

Mr. Hardy then withdrew his motion.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET.

Count Metternich on the Austrian Railway Scheme.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 25.

At a dinner, given by the London Chamber of Commerce, Count Metternich, the German Ambassador, said that the German Government seriously hopes that steps may be taken by the Powers to terminate the massacres in Macedonia.

German policy, he said, was directed to united action to effect reforms.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

Count Metternich in his speech at the Chamber of Commerce dinner, referring to the Austrian Railway Scheme said that Germany would welcome the construction of any railways to Turkey as a means of pacification and of extending trade but it was an utter fabrication to suggest that Germany had instigated the Austrian Scheme.

EAST AFRICAN RAILWAYS.

Extension to Lake Albert Proposed.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

Mr. Winston-Churchill speaking as the guest at the British East Africa Association Dinner, said that he hoped that it would be possible to make proposals to Parliament to extend the Uganda Railway to Lake Albert.

JAPANESE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Courts Decide against the Immigration Act.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

The British Columbian Full Court upheld the decision of the Chief Justice that the Immigration Act was opposed to the Treaty and was inoperative in reference to Japanese.

GERMANY AND EAST AFRICA

Labour System Denounced.

CHANGES IMPERATIVE.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

In the Budget Committee of the Reichstag, Herr Dernburg, replying to criticisms of his policy of reform in East Africa denied that the natives were lazy and incapable of being taught. He said that the regulation of labour-recruiting was imperative and that that the present system often differed little from the slave-hunts in the Congo.

TURKEY AND PERSIA.

Sujbulak Evacuated.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

The Turks have evacuated Sujbulak, retiring to Passwah, and the Persians have re-entered the place.

THE TEST MATCH.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

In the last Test Match Australia completed their second innings for 422.

England, going in again, had made 117 for the loss of six wickets when stumps were drawn.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

THE BLOOMFIELD MURDER CASE.

Mr. Morley Apathetic.

THE RAWALPINDI RIOTS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, FEBRUARY 25.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Morley, replying to Mr. Rees, said he was not aware that the High Court's decision in the Bloomfield case had alarmed the Europeans in Behar who were living in solitary situations, and that no legal point was involved which would enable an appeal being made to the Privy Council.

In reply to a question put by Mr. MacNeill in reference to compensating the six Indian lawyers arrested in May and imprisoned for five months without bail and then acquitted at Rawalpindi, Mr. Morley said he did not think that reasons for such reparation are disclosed.

The Bloomfield case was heard by Mr. Ross, I.C.S., Sessions Judge at Motihari and resulted in the accused being sentenced to be hanged. The sentence was subsequently, however, commuted to transportation. There were five accused who obtained lands under a "Zerpershaga" sale deed. Mr. Bloomfield, as lessee of the Zemindar, received notice of the transfer of possession and instituted two suits in Court in reference to these fields. Two of the men came to him to get "Dakil Karich" in their names when Mr. Bloomfield demanded Rs. 100 as "salami." They would not give this and next day when Mr. Bloomfield was out they assaulted and killed him. On August 27 a special correspondent of the *Times* at Muzaffarpur deplored the reduction of the sentences and said "if this reduction is consistent with law, it argues that an amendment of the law is urgent."

RIVAL SCOTTISH LAND BILLS.

Lords versus Commons.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

The House of Lords has passed the second reading of the Small Holdings and Allotments (Scotland) Bill, which was introduced by Lord Camperdown.

The Bill applies the English Land Act to Scotland, and is a rival to the Government's Small Landholders Bill which was read a third time in the House of Commons last night by 347 votes against 92.

Lord Crewe described the second reading of the Bill as a slight to the House of Commons.

Lord Rosebery twitted Lord Crewe upon his embarrassment in repudiating a Bill which he had introduced himself for England, where it was producing memorable results.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

The Fakuman Railway.

OPEN DOOR IN MANCHURIA THREATENED.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

The correspondent of the "Times" telegraphs from Peking that the leading journals anticipate that if the Japanese denial of China's right to build the Fakuman Railway is upheld. The result will be the end of the Open Door, and the extinction of Chinese sovereignty in Manchuira.

China has decided to take up the question with the Japanese Legation.

A Japanese official statement has been published in London which says that the matter is not connected with the question of the Open Door. Japan cannot afford to allow the construction of the line and intends to hold China to her solemn undertaking in the Treaty of 1905.

NATIVE LABOUR FOR TRANSVAAL.

Recruiting in Madagascar.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 25.

Reuter (Pretoria) states that the Government is negotiating with France with a view to recruiting native labour in Madagascar.

ADVISORY COUNCILS.

Proposals of the Rangoon Chamber.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RANGOON, FEBRUARY 26.

In regard to Advisory Councils, the Local Government has received the recommendations from the various public bodies, on the reference from the Government of India, dealing with certain proposals for the creation of Imperial and Provincial Advisory Councils and for the enlargement of the existing Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils.

The Rangoon Municipal Corporation has already expressed its general agreement with the proposals put forward by Government.

The Chamber of Commerce has also approved of the formation of a Provincial Advisory Council for Burma, but it hopes that it will not result in any alteration in the present policy of Government of obtaining the opinion of public bodies on matters in which they are particularly concerned. They are in favour of the Council being composed of twenty members by nomination. Of these, two should be selected from the European, two from the Hindu and two from the Mahomedan community, respectively, and the majority of the remaining thirteen vacancies should be filled by Burmans, Rangoon being represented by at least one-third of the Council.

It is also recommended that the Shan States should have a representative on the Council in one of the Sawbwas.

The Chamber has approved of a moderate increase in the number of Non-Official Members of the Provincial Legislative Council in view of the probable enlargement of the other Provincial Legislative Council.

The proposals set forth by the Government in regard to the Elective System have been agreed to. The election of one member should be made by the Chamber, another member should jointly be elected by the other public bodies, the Port Commissioners, the Rangoon Municipal Committee and the Trades Associatson one member. A Burman should be elected by the Provincial Advisory Council and the remaining Non-Official Members nominated as at present.

The Elective System appears to be too limited to form a satisfactory basis and the Chamber has supported the proposal to have an annual discussion of the Provincial Budget and the right of interpellation and the election of one Non-Official Member of the Imperial Legislative Council by the Non-Official Members of the Legislative Council.

PLAYS AND PASTIMES.

"STINGAREE."

London's New Theatre.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, FEBRUARY 7.

Not the least amusing feature of the first performance of "Stingaree" at the Queen's was the attitude of vehement hostility displayed by certain Australians in the audience towards the unreality of the type suggested by the hero of the play. "I have seen some bushrangers in my time," said a Sydney man at the close of the first act, "but anything even faintly suggestive of this cheap would have been chaffed out of the business in less than a week." The general opinion of the Colonial set was that Mr. Hornung, as an Australian, should have known better, and the Stingaree, with his eyeglass, his dandy drill suits, and his languid airs was a libel on the real bearded, brick-red bully of the bush. One remembers to have seen at close range two specimens of the real bushranger some few minutes before they met a richly-deserved death at the hands of the public executioner, and a more evil unsavoury-looking pair of rascals it would be difficult to imagine. Just as Rolfe Boldrewood idealised the type in Starlight, so Mr. Hornung has idealised it in Stingaree, only it is to be remembered that whereas the central figure of "Robbery Under Arms" was the busiest of bushrangers in the play as well as in the book, Stingaree might, for all the evidence he gives to the contrary, be anything in all the world but a dare-devil road-robber. And that is what the Australians resented as a libel upon the memory of a hard-working body of men.

LONDON'S NEW THEATRE.

It has been known for some time past that that excellent site at the junction of the Haymarket and Orange-Street had been selected for the purpose of erecting a handsome playhouse. It is now announced that the proprietor of this establishment (which is to be a classically beautiful concern of Carrara marble) will be Mr. L. N. Lyons, brother of the well-known member of the famous restaurant firm. When the new house is completed (which will probably not be for fully eighteen months) playgoers may expect to find an extremely popular acter at the head of affairs.

"PETER PAN" AND AFTER.

Several months ago it was announced in this column that following the run of "Peter Pan" at the Duke of York's, Mr. Frohman would revive "The Admirable Crichton," with Mr. Lyn Harding in the part formerly played by Mr. H. B. Irving. It has now been decided that the present revival of "Peter Pan" shall terminate on the evening of Saturday, the 22nd inst., and that Mr. Barry's wonder-play shall then go on tour with the majority of the present company—one of the exceptions being Miss Ela Q. May, who will replace Miss Hilda Trevelyan (wanted elsewhere) as Wendy. During the week following the close of the "Peter Pan" run "The Admirable Crichton" will be revived.

"ROSMERSHOLM" AT TERRY'S.

A series of seven performances—matinee and evening of Ibsen's "Rosmersholm" is to be given at Terry's during next week. The play will be produced by Mr. Hubert Carter, and the cast will include Mr. Charles Fulton, Mr Edmund Gwenn, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr Eille Norwood, Miss Kate Bishop, and Miss Florence Kahn, who has been playing Rebecca West in New York.

CASTING "THE DREAM WALTZ."

Mr. George Edwardes, in consultation with Mr. Frohman, is at present engaged in the important task of casting "The Dream Waltz," which is to be seen at the Hicks in April. Two names, those of Mr. Robert Evett and Mr. George Grossmith, jun., are mentioned for leading parts; the choice of an artist for the chief singing character rests between two well-known and highly popular ladies; while for the ingénue a remarkably interesting engagement is contemplated. Would it not seem odd to find Miss Gertie Millar at the Hicks? Meanwhile, it is worthy of note that "Brewster's Millions" last night reached its 300th performance. Here, indeed, is an instance of success as the result of a determination to "stick to it."

REVIVAL OF "RIP."

Mme. Albanesi's play "Susannah—and "Some Others" had but a brief career at the New Royalty, which closed its doors after seven performances of the piece in question. It is now announced that the house will be re-opened to-morrow evening with a revival of "Rip Van winkle," in which Miss Ina Cameron will play Gretchen to the Rip of Mr. Fred Storey. The rest of a cheerful bill will be made up with the Mad Scene from "Hamlet" with Miss Cameron as Ophelia. What a place of shocks the New Royalty is, to be sure!

MISS ADA REEVE FOR THE APOLLO.

It was mentioned in this column last Tuesday that within the next few months Miss Ada Reeve would reappear at a West-End theatre with a new musical comedy. It has now been decided that the theatre shall be the Apollo, and when the new production does take place it will not be surprising to find Mr. Hayden Coffin in the cast.

WHAT SUCCESS CAN DO.

Some little time ago Mr. James Welch was at pains to deny the accuracy of certain expressions attributed to him by a representative of an important American newspaper at present resident in London. So far Mr. Milton Royle has not questioned the accuracy of an interview with him which appears in another American journal of high standing. It is to be hoped that Mr. Royle will stick to every word of it, for it is most interesting and not a little instructive. Mr. Royle, who, by the way, is the author of "The White Man," at present running with great success at the Lyric, is amused that anyone can even have thought the London playgoer aught but a person of high intelligence and keen perception. He is aware that he and some of his countrymen have been known to express the view that there existed on the part of the British public an absurd prejudice against American plays. He frankly confesses, indeed, that he himself was guilty of a thought so unworthy. Now, however, he sees in the success of "The White Man" every evidence of those qualities which enable British audiences to be classed with the most intelligent on earth, he finds us quick to catch the fleeting point, swift to be "on" to every telling line, splendid enthusiasts, and every other kind of good thing that an audience should be. Mr. Royle thinks even our reporters are quick because they snapped George Fawcett next day and had his picture in the newspapers the day after that.

A few more American successes and we shall not know ourselves.

EXITS.

Indignant protest has, it seems, been aroused on the part of the managers of the variety theatres by the announcement that the Theatres and Music-halls Committee of the London County Council proposed to take some action towards regulating the size of audiences. By one establishment I have been favoured with an excerpt from the speech of a director, in which that gentleman is reported to have said that "the fullest audiences can be got out in less than three minutes." It certainly sounds a little ambiguous at first, but the serious meaning presently becomes quite clear.

Regarded with a cold and impartial eye the position appears to be one in which the authority seeks to limit the amount of standing room to a proportion based upon the number of exits. Thus, admitting that each exit will suffice for 300 persons, a gallery—say of two exits—should accommodate no more than 600 people seated and standing, and so on and so forth. Against any regulation of that kind the managers are protesting on the ground that no buildings in the world devoted to public amusement are safer than the music-halls of London. Besides, the certainty that there can never be any finality in new regulations imposed by the controlling authority but serves to strengthen the managerial protest.

THE REAL TROUBLE.

To one who, week in and week out, sees a great deal of the music-hall—its exits, its entertainments, and its audiences—the position presents itself as one of singular simplicity. If the committee had been "going the round of the shows" for the past few months it would unanimously have arrived at the conclusion that what the variety theatres, generally speaking, need at the present time is not larger exits but smaller entrances. The latter are absurdly out of proportion to the size of the crowds which use them, while in the majority of cases the theatre itself might, with advantage, be reduced to half the ordinary size. The committee probably does not know that while it is proposing to ask the manager to increase the facilities for getting its audiences out, he, luckless man, is busy thinking up schemes for getting in. At present that difficulty is quite enough to go on with.

OUT AND IN AT THE PALACE.

Miss Fanny Brough will, in her duologue, "Law and Order," make her last appearance at the Palace to-morrow evening. The event is chronicled not without regret, for, although the work was not altogether worthy of the artist, the art of the artist served in a measure to adorn the work. If Miss Brough should ever return to the Palace she would be welcome. To-morrow evening also, Mr. Barclay Gammon concludes a remarkably popular engagement at this hou Ho sails next Wednesday for Australia to f ulfil contract extending over several months.

To fill the vacancie thus created in the programme the Miller Brothers, acrobatic comedians (it is said, at eminence in the business), will on Monday next make their first appearance on this island. They are Amarican On the same evening the Dumonds, Parisian stree ministrels, will, likewise, join the programme.

Miss Ruth Vincent, the important British attraction, will commence her engagement at the Palace on the evening of Monday week, 17th instant.

THE ZAKKA KHEL EXPEDITION.

Private Account of the Operations

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, FEBRUARY 2.

The following account of the situation in Bazar Valley is not official but is in fact an extract from a letter received on Saturday from Mallakdin Khel by an Afridi sepoy now stationed in Rawalpindi.

The valley is full of the Sirkar's troops and many regiments there are fighting every day and the Zakka Khels try to snipe and to steal rifles. Many of the Sirkar's men are killed and a few "Sahibs" and Gurkhas and Sikhs. They have destroyed all the villages and owners from Ali Musjid to Cheena. Cheena too is destroyed so that you would not recognise it.

The Zakka Khels have mostly gone to the hills and some into the Amir's territory, but the snow on the Passes is high and deep.

All the Afridis are watching from the hills, and all will attack the Sirkar's troops if they do not restrict themselves to the Bazar.

The Zakka Khel operations are understood to be now unlikely to last many days more.

THE AFRIDIS IN GENERAL.

The Afridi soldier is beloved of his officers as the nearest approach to the British soldier amongst all the sepoys of the Native Army, writes A.D.E. in the "Pioneer," his faults and his virtues, if not absolutely the same, being actually similar to those of Tommy Atkins. Though he is straight and outspoken to a degree which to those who do not know him sometimes savours of familiarity, yet no soldier knows his place better or is more respectful to his superiors, than the Pathan. Off duty he feels himself to be a free individual and meets his officers on equal terms as man does man, but as he is always at ease in their presence he seldom bores.

A fault of the native in general is that he cannot resist turning the Sahib's friendship to his personal advantage. This defect the Pathan is particularly free from. If there happens to be anything he wants, your being his friend will not prevent him from asking for it, but he seldom seeks the Sahib's friendship for ulterior motives, and this makes it possible to be very friendly with him. As a soldier he is brave, but "not" to a fault, for being gifted with natural commonsense and born and bred in personal danger, he knows how to calculate chance to a nicety. You will seldom catch a Pathan in a hole, if he sees his way of getting out of it in good time. In this he is directly opposite to the Sikh who "is" brave to a fault. If there is a hole about, Mangal Singh will gravitate towards it instinctively, out of sheer bravado.

This is the Afridi as we know him in the character of a soldier of the King. As a free tribesman he has a very different side to his medal, and unfortunately it is that side that looms large in the eyes of the British Government and its Political Agents. Just as on the sepoy side of his medal he is as much of an angle as a soldier can hope to be, so on his tribesman's side, he is a complete and finished demon. Of him it may truly be said, that his hand is against every one and every-one's hand is against him. He is an encyclopædia of all the known vices. He is faithless, greedy, treacherous and cowardly, and provided there is little danger to himself, he will take life for such a small thing as an empty cartridge case, and, failing that for mere recreation. He has no notion of right and wrong and is a thief highway robber, burglar and murderer combined, without having any religious feelings of his own he is a bigoted fanatic and views Hindus and all other natives as heathens to be exterminated whenever met. Yet in spite of all his imperfections there is something particularly picturesque, not to say fascinating, in the character, appearance and bearing of the Afridi. For one thing he is not commonplace, and being a quantity ever the reverse of negligable, those who have dealings with him are forced to overlook his faults in spite of themselves. In truth the Afridi is not much to blame. He is the logical outcome of his geographical political surroundings and cannot justly be held responsible for being what he is. Freedom and a fine physique is practically all that a niggardly Providence has been pleased to vouchsafe to him; but his country produces nought but boulders, which are not negociable. Unless he makes up his mind to quit his beloved "crags," oven his simplest wants he can only indulge by robbery. Theft is, therefore, an actual every day necessity with him, and except for his proneness to combine it with violence without sufficient justification, he is no more to be reprobated for being a thief than we are to be praised for respecting property.

It is possibly this consideration that disposes Government to be patient with the tribesman. A point in his character which appeals specially to the Englishman is his contempt for pin pricks. When an Afridi has a reasonable grudge against an enemy, he does not make his life a burden to him by petty annoyances, but shoots him off hand on the first convenient opportunity. Of all strangers those he tolerates the best are the English Sahibs, and there is reason to believe that if his ignorant fanaticism did not make us all kafirs in his eyes, he would actually love us. As a soldier he is certainly fond of his officers. Lall Bazar, Calcutta, is responsible for more assaults on Europeans in the course of the last two years than all the North West Frontier has since we first became acquainted with it. Our ladies can roam about the most crowded streets in Peshawar City with freedom from petty annoyances which is absolutely unknown in Calcutta and other large towns in the south. In this respect there is something remarkably English in the Afridi. He very seldom eyes a lady with the insolent stare of the down country native. Anyone who knows Peshawar and the other frontier stations knows also how absolutely at the mercy of the Afridis of the neighbouring hills each individual Sahib is. Yet, if one thinks that the number of Europeans that have met with violence at their hands in a decade can be counted on one's hand, one is forced to admit that they are deserving of all the forbearance we can give them. Raids in villages in British territory and the armed collisions which follow also in the way of business, do not of course, count. The Afridi himself bears us no grudge for looking after our own.

COUNCILS REFORM SCHEME.

Sir H. Risley Probable Special Duty Officer.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, FEBRUARY 26.

The opinions of the Local Governments upon the scheme of the Councils Reform will reach the Government of India before the end of March and there will then be a mass of matter to be dealt with in the Home Department, and it seems inevitable that Sir Herbert Risley or some other Officer will have to be placed on Special Duty to give undivided attention to this matter.

THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Presidential Address.

"THE AFTERMATH OF THE MUHARRAM."

The twenty-second annual general meeting of the Society was held in the rooms of the B.B.R.A. Society, Town Hall, yesterday, at 6 p.m. when Mr. S. M. Edwardes, I. C. S., President, occupied the chair. Before the proceedings, commenced, Mr. James MacDonald proposed that the Society put on record the sense of loss sustained by it, by the death of Sir Denzil Ibbetson, who was the President of the Society in 1889.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following presents were announced:—From Paris—Revue de L'Ecole D'Anthropologie de Paris, Annee 1-1908. From Berlin—Zeitschrift fur Ethnologie, Hett VI, 1907. From International Review of Ethnologie and Linguistics, Band III Heft 1. From Tokyo—The Journal of the Anthropological Society of Tokyo, Vol. XXIII. No. 259 of 1907. From New York—Bulletin of the New York Public Library. Vol. XI No. 12 of 1907 and Vol. XII No. 1 of 1908.

From Berkely—University of California Publications in American Archæology and Ethnology, Vol. 4. From Mexico—Annales del Museo Nacional de Mexico, Segunda Epoca, Tomo IV num. 9 and num. 10 of 1907. From Wien—Uber Sondersprachen und uhre Entstehung 1907. From Braunschweig—System der physischen) Anthropologie und Anthropologische Bibliographie 1907.

The twenty-second annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year 1907 were read and adopted.

The following Office-bearers were elected for the current year:—Mr. S. M. Edwardes, I. C. S., President. Mr. James MacDonald and Mr. K. R. Cama, Vice-Presidents. Shams-ul-Ulma Jivanji Jamshedji Modi, B. A., Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The present Committee was re-elected.

The President Mr. S. M. Edwardes, I. C. S., then delivered his Presidential Address. He said:—

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,—Once again it is my pleasant duty to address the Anthropological Society of Bombay and discuss with you the work of the past year. I am fully conscious of the fact that during the latter half of 1907 I was unable to perform the full service that the President of this Society ought to perform, and that my personal contributions to our Journal and my presence at our monthly meetings were not as frequent as they ought to have been. But I know that you realize that this interregnum of inactivity was due to circumstances beyond my control and that the demands on my time were so continuous and so imperative as to absolutely debar me from participating in your debates or taking more than a casual glance at the progress of your affairs. Thanks, however, to your exertions and the perpetual labours of our Honorary Secretary, the temporary eclipse of the President has had no visible effect upon the out-turn of work or upon the financial position of the Society, which has profited by the election of fourteen new members, and may generally be described as flourishing. My remarks of last year still hold good. We must endeavour to increase our membership, not so much from the pecuniary standpoint as from that of educative influence, our unanimous conviction being that the more the Society knows of the history, manners and customs of the various tribes and castes inhabiting this continent, the more interest shall we awaken and the greater claim shall we have to be consulted by similar Societies in other parts of the world, upon ethnological questions directly affecting the people of India and of this Presidency in particular. I notice with pleasure that the number of contributions to our Society's Journal has remained practically undiminished and that the first number of Volume VIII contains a fair proportion of those "anthropological scraps" for which I pleaded on a former occasion. At the present moment the Honorary Secretary has in his possession three interesting papers on castes and beliefs obtaining in the Southern Division of this Presidency, which will be read before you in due course; and I have every reason to hope that the contributions to our Journal during the current year will be as numerous and as interesting as they have been in the past.

One point which strikes me in glancing through the past issues of our Journal is the almost complete absence of notes and information about the Muhammadan community and Muhammadan festivals in this Presidency. Of Hindu castes and customs, Parsi beliefs, Indo-Egyptian thought, and general mythology one can learn a good deal; but of purely Musalman festivals or beliefs,—practically nothing. Partly on this account and partly in view of the fact that the Muharram of 1908 has attained a most unfortunate notoriety, I venture to confine my address on this occasion to a brief description of a purely Musalman observance,—the ceremony of Imam Hussin's Chehellum or the fortieth day after martyrdom. This day falls on the 10th of the month of Safar and is reserved by nearly all the Muhammadans of Bombay for the cooking of special food, the consecration of the various dishes by repetition over them of the Fatiha (prayers for the dead) in Hussin's name, and the final distribution of the food to the poor. If the dinner is prepared in pursuance of a vow, it is usually of a lawish nature and consists of what is known as "Biryani" (rice and mutton) seasoned with saffron, sweet dishes of "Zarda" or saffroned rice mixed with almonds and raisins and vegetable curry and curds. If, on the other hand, the dinner is prepared from the proceeds of presents collected by one who has figured in the Muharram as a tiger, a singer, a "lord of the conchshell" a Bukhari, or any other of the many Muharram mummers, it is a plain repast of simple "pulao" with a pumkin or brinjal stew; while if it is a dinner given in charity for the souls of the Karbala martyrs it is confined to simple leavened wheat cakes and halwa.

It is likewise held seemly and auspicious on the evening of the fortieth day to hold sermons or "Waaz" which are arranged and paid for jointly by coteries of Memon and other Muhammadan merchants. The outward and visible signs of these public sermons are a row of wooden posts along the front of the shops, bearing tumblers, filled half with oil and half with parti-coloured liquids, large numbers of paper lamps pendent from the eaves of the shops, and a wooden platform, hung with jasmine streamers and surmounted by a canopy embellished with green and red paper lamps. This platform, which forms at once the seat and pulpit of the preaching Maulvi, faces several rows of benches and chairs reserved for the audience, some of whom are not infrequently of the female sex. The Maulvi himself, who is usually a native of Gujarat or Northern India, receives for his sermon from Rs. 3 to Rs. 10 or Rs. 15, according to his reputation as a logician or elocutionist, together with an extra rupee for the Elegy-singer, if such an one accompany him. He takes his seat upon the dais about 9 p.m., and by 9-30 p.m., after the "Isha" or night-prayers are over, the majority of the audience has ranged itself along the branches; whereupon the Maulvi bids his Elegy-singer chant the "Darud" or prayers for the Prophet, which run as follows:—

"Alla humma Salli ala Syedina
Muhammadin wa ala Alihi,
Wa Ashabibi, wa Barik, wa Sallim"

which, being interpreted, means:—

"Oh Allah send prayers and blessings
on our Lord Muhammad and on his
children and comrades, and bless and
save thou them all"

The assembled company murmurs the prayer in unison with the Elegy-singer, forming thereby a not unpleasing and whispering accompaniment to his ringing notes; and when the prayer is concluded the Maulvi reads from the Koran the famous verse referring to Ali's three days' fast after the illness of his sons, Hasan and Hussin, which has been translated as follows into English:—

"But the just shall drink of a cup of wine mixed with Kafur (a fountain in Paradise), a fountain whereof the servants of the Most High shall drink. They shall carry it by channels. These fulfil their vow and fear a day the evil whereof shall be spread far and wide. And they feed the poor, the orphan and the captive for His sake, saying "we feed you for God's sake only, and we desire from you nor recompense nor thanks."

The Maulvi enlarges upon the Kuranic verse, telling his audience how Hasan and Hussin fell ill and how their sire, Ali, was advised by the Prophet to vow a three days' fast for their recovery and when they did recover, Ali, being without means to purchase even barley for the daily bread, went unto Simeon a Jew and borrowed from him sufficient to last himself and his family three days. On the first day when the lady Fatima had ground the barley and prepared three cakes, and the family were just about to break their fast, a poor traveller came to the door and besought them to give him food and out of the charity of their hearts Ali and his family gave up the three cakes to the traveller and slept fasting. The second day an orphan came unto the house, and the third day a starving captive, to both of whom the family likewise gave their shares—an act of self-sacrifice which earned the approval of Allah and of the Angel Gabriel who was sent to congratulate the Prophet upon the nobility of his son-in-law. The Maulvi then proceeds to tell how Hasan and Hussin in no wise departed from the high standard of charity maintained by their father and poors forth many a text and tale in praise of the generous and tender-hearted.

The Maulvis of old days are said to have known by heart the greater part of Maulana Jalaluddin's metrical Persian version of the Koran. But few such accomplished preachers now remain; and more often than not the Maulvi, at a loss for a sentence or an illustration, is obliged to cover his ignorance by ordering a repetition of the prayer for the Prophet. The sermon in this manner draws gradually to an end and concludes with the intoning of various chants by the Elegy-singer in honour of Muhammad, the most favourite chants being those of Saadi or Amir Khusrao, as parodied into Hindustani by the famous Urdu poets, Suda and Nazir. One of the best known of these lyrics runs somewhat as follows:—

"Marhaba Syeli Makki Madani ul Arabi Dilo jan
Bad Shayat chi ajal khush lakabi Tani rauna ki ada
jamai zibe ki phaban sur woh chehre ki tajalli woh
biyazi zardan Labi nazuk pi tabassum we jabon i rau-
shan ki jo murda bhi agar dekhe kare chak kafan aur
Ferishta bhi jo dikhe to nikale ye Sukhan,"

Or in other words:—

Hail, Lord of Mecca, Madina and Arabia!
My heart and soul are thy sacrifice. How beautiful are thy titles!
Ah! the grace of thy fair form, ah! the sit of thy elegant apparel!
The light of prophecy agleam in thine angel face; the snow-white hue of thy shapely neck;
The smile on thy cherry lips, thine open brow, darkling eyes, and incomparable features!
Lo! if the corpse in the grave looked upon these, it would rend its shroud,
And an angel at the sight of thee would repeat the word of welcome!"

When the last chant is over, the hosts wander among the audience distributing handfuls of sweets, parched rice, dates or fruit; and a few minutes later the members of the assembly, one by one, move forward to the dais, kiss the hand of the Maulvi, and turn their faces homewards. The aftermath of the Muharram is complete.

The main question which arises from a consideration of this Musalman ceremony concerns the period of forty days which elapses between the day of martyrdom and the observance which I have briefly detailed to you. Why should the ceremony fall on the fortieth day rather than on the tenth, the fifteenth or the twentieth day after the Muharram? The answer, so far as I can gather from a cursory examination of the subject, is that the number 40 was originally used by the Arabs, as it was also by the Jews, as a round number significant of full development. In the Koran, Chap XLVI, 14, for example, one reads the words "until he reached his full strength and attained the age of forty years," and the same authoritative work is primarily responsible for the tradition that Muhammad received his call to go forth and preach his doctrine at the age of 40. If again we turn to the ancient Jewish Scriptures, we find that the whole early chronology of the Hebrews was measured by this particular unit, which became a symbolic, if not a sacred, number.—The children of Israel, for example, wandered for 40 years in the wilderness; the prophet Elijah was fed by ravens for 40 days; the great rain, productive of the Flood, fell for 40 days; the people of Nineveh were granted a respite of 40 days from destruction; Moses fasted for 40 days; and more than one of the chief actors in ancient Hebrew legend married at the age of forty. In ancient Egypt, which exercised so marked an influence upon the nations of antiquity, the period of embalming the dead lasted for forty days; and even in modern Cairo the period after child birth, during which the mother is regarded as religiously impure, is fixed at forty days. [Lane, Manners and Customs of Modern Egypt]. Turning to medieval English customs and folklore, we find that the same period was fixed as the limit for the payment of a fine for manslaughter; that the privilege of sanctuary in the fighting days lasted for the same period; and even that Members of Parliament were protected from arrest for full 40 days after the prorogation of the House of Commons and before the House was again convened. The alchemists of old-time always regarded 40 days as a charmed period, within which the philospher's stone and elixir of life would appear to an expectant world; while on the other hand the English country folk of to-day will solemnly assure you that the feast of St. Swithin betokens rain for full forty days. Considering these facts, and considering also that both the Persians and the Turks use the number 40 as a synonym for "many", one can only conclude that the Musalman festival, which I have described above, was originally intended to be celebrated on the expiry of a reasonable period, dating from the death-day of the martyrs of Islam, but not necessarily limited or extended to exactly forty days. The intervening days between the anniversary of the Karbala massacre and the ceremony in question were doubtless to be kept more or less as a period of mourning or fasting, similar in great degree to the Christian season of Lent, which, connected as it originally was with a Saxon festival of Spring, lasted at first for forty hours only and was subsequently extended to forty days. In those days the Muhammadans, like Christians who observe Lent, keep the exact period of forty days, handed down to them by custom from past ages—but one cannot help suspecting that the period originally was not limited to a definite number of weeks or days, and that the original object of the founders of the feast was simply to ensure a reasonable period of mourning or fasting by the community at large.

I have not been able to discover in Iranian or Hindu literature any definite reference to a similar period—But some of us in our spare hours may yet find it an agreeable task to trace the prevalence of kindred ideas regarding certain numbers, such as 7 or 13 or 40 among the races of the East and West, and thereby possibly discover another small link between peoples who now differ widely in characteristics, religion and language.—

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded with acclamation to the President Mr. S. M. Edwardes I. C. S., after which the proceedings terminated.

INDIAN COMPANIES' ACT.

Re-issue of Debentures.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, FEBRUARY 26.

The Madras Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to the Government of India on the subject of the amendment of the Indian Companies Act by the insertion of clauses empowering Joint Stock Companies to re-issue their Debentures in certain circumstances.

After stating that the Chamber has had, under consideration, the question of the law in the matter of the re-issue of Debentures by Joint Stock Companies as regulated by recent decisions in the English Courts, such as *re* the Perth Electric Tramways (1900) 2 Ch. 216 and *re* Geo. Routledge and Sons (1904) 2 Ch. 474, the letter goes on to say that the effect of these decisions is such that no person can, with safety, invest in Debentures of Joint Stock Companies without first tracing them back to the original date of issue and satisfying himself thereby that no re-issue has taken place.

In England the seriousness of the situation, thus treated, was realised and steps were quickly taken to rectify it by including in the Companies Act of 1907 clauses empowering Joint Stock Companies to re-issue and keep alive their Debentures. In certain circumstances so urgent was the matter felt to be, that although the Act itself does not become law until July 1908, the clauses above referred to come into force at once with retrospective effect.

The Chamber, therefore, desires to urge the necessity of early steps being taken to amend the Indian Companies Act by the addition of sections similar to those referred to in the New English Act so that the free negotiation of Debentures issued by Indian Joint Stock Companies may be duly protected.

EDINBURGH LL. D.

To be Conferred upon a Rajah.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, FEBRUARY 26.

The Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh have resolved to confer upon His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws at the graduation ceremonia which takes place on the 10th of April.

The degree will be conferred in "absentia" as His Highness is unable to leave his State at present.

BEPIN CHANDRA PAL'S RELEASE.

Extremists Preparation.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, FEBRUARY 26.

Bengalee Volunteers are being enrolled in large numbers in connection with the arrangements which are being made by Extremists here to welcome; Bepin Chander Pal who is to be released from jail on the 9th proximo.

MYSORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGALORE, FEBRUARY 26.

The Mysore Legislative Council sat yesterday and to-day to consider amongst other business, the Select Committee's reports and amendments proposed to the Village Officers Bill and Police Bill.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Annual Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held in the rooms of the Chamber, Graham's Buildings, last evening.

The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Armstrong, Chairman of the Chamber presided and the following Members were present:—Mr. H. E. E. Proctor, Mr. D. N. Wilson and Mr. W. H. Ogston of Messrs. Killick Nixon & Co., Mr. H. Courtenay Wright of Messrs. Wallace & Co., and the Bombay Company, Ld.; Mr. Donald N. Graham and Mr. A. P. Stewart of Messrs. W. & A. Graham and Company; Mr. S. M. Moses, Mr. A. G. Dovey, and Mr. M. S. Moses, of Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ld; Mr. J. N. Motara, of Messrs. Ralli Brothers; Mr. N. S. Glasebrook of Messrs. Glasebrook Tejpal & Co; Mr. J. Fairclough of Messrs. Ewart Latham & Co; Mr. A. Foulkes of Messrs. Owen & Okell; Mr. John Greig

question or a tariff or railway matter, might be lost sight of and that a wrong impression would be created by a representation made in London on a majority vote of the London Committee. We also felt that members at home could not always be in full touch with opinions on this side and that an immense amount of correspondence and explanation would be necessary. I am glad to say that similar views were expressed by a number of gentlemen, experienced in Indian affairs, now residing in London and when this was known the project was dropped.

As regards the Bill for the Registration of Partnerships, which is now quite an old friend, I hope we have advanced a stage during the past year, but as to this I am not very certain. In February the Bengal Chamber submitted a draft Bill for our consideration, and after consulting with our solicitors and taking Counsel's opinion we replied suggesting a number of alterations, some of them very material. The Bengal Chamber did not reply to our representation, but sent in their draft Bill to Government very much on the lines of the copy they had submitted to us. As, however, we differed on several important points we thought it best to submit to Government a draft Bill of our own, and this we have done and now await a reply. One very important matter in the Bill as orginally drafted is a disability clause which prevents a firm or partnership from suing for a debt unless such firm or partnership has been registered. You will realise that if everyone who carries on business in this country is to be registered, and by everyone I mean traders of all kinds and shopkeepers of whom there are many thousands, that the working of the Act will become.

A MATTER OF GREAT DIFFICULTY.

Recognising that there are thousands of small traders whose transactions with any one individual do not aggregate a large sum, your Committee suggested a few years ago—the suggestion in fact was one of my own—that nothing in the Act should prevent a trading concern that was not registered from suing for a debt up to a small amount,—the idea was Rs. 500, but the exact figure was not settled and I would be quite willing to see this amount increased. Your Committee felt that a provision of this kind would exclude a very large number of petty traders in a non-commercial sense to whom registration and the notification of changes in partnerships and so forth would prove somewhat of a nuisance and perhaps be misunderstood. It was also felt that by excluding these people the working of the Act would become very much simpler and that there was more chance therefore of its being a success. I am sorry to say the Bengal Chamber have not yet adopted this proposal, but my idea is that our suggestion is one that we should press, for unless it is adopted the Act may be unworkable owing to the enormous number of people who will have to be registered.

THE SHORT REELING OF YARNS?

The question of the short reeling of yarns has again engaged our attention and I am sorry to say we have made very little progress. We took up the matter with Government on a report from Singapore of some scandalously reeled yarns which had been shipped from this market for sale there. In some of the bundles the hanks measured less than 600 yards and although the number on the paper was "40," and the bundles were made up in 40 knots, the actual count was only about 15s. We drew the attention of Government to this in August and urged that immediate action should be taken to prevent such shipments leaving this port, but their reply was only received by your Committee a month ago, and nothing, I regret, has yet been done, to put a stop to this scandalous practice. It does seem strange that when the Customs prevent the importation of short reeled yarns they will not take prompt measures to stop the export of bales such as I have described which are undoubtedly fraudulent and made up with the object of deceiving. I admit difficulties in reeling in this country for which full allowance should be made, but yarns such as I have described are a disgrace and shippers of such threads and their suppliers should be severely dealt with.

In the early part of July it was intimated that the Railway Board would receive another million sterling for the financial year 1907-08 towards the purchase of rolling stock and that this amount would be taken from the profits on coinage during the year which otherwise would have gone to swell the investments in the Gold Standard Reserve. On hearing of this your Committee at once objected on the ground that a point had not yet been reached which guaranteed absolute safety as regards the currency, and that until this was so it was not right to divert profits on coinage to any other purpose. Your Committee recognised, of course, that money was badly needed for the purchase of rolling stock and that it was a difficult matter to raise funds in London, but at the same time they held the view, which I think has been fully confirmed by recent events, that

THE GOLD STANDARD RESERVE

was not yet large enough, and that confidence in the stability of our currency might be shaken if at this stage profits on coinage were diverted to any other purpose. You are of course aware, gentlemen, that this Gold Standard Reserve is not held in gold. It is invested for the sake of interest, in gold securities, but successive Committees of this Chamber have held the view that this fund should be held largely in gold and be retained in this country. This view, however, is apparently not acceptable but, in the light of recent events and the nervousness which was displayed in dealing with the fall in Exchange, it is clear the general position would be much strengthened if the fund were held in gold. The first check to the favourable balance of trade of the past few years was sufficient to demonstrate how necessary it is to have larger reserves in gold than we now possess, for I take it that if the quantity available had been large when the demand for the metal for export recently arose, there would have been less disposition to curtail supplies. Under existing conditions the only means of providing a further stock of gold is to be found in the Gold Standard Reserve, and unfortunately this reserve does not consist of gold.

GOVERNMENT AND EXCHANGE.

This leads me to touch on the way in which Government dealt with the fall in exchange alluded to. The policy of the Government of India in such a contingency is to stop the sale of Council Bills. Now this policy was tried with disastrous results in 1893 when, it will be remembered, Government held up Councils for a certain rate of exchange for several months. What happened? They sold extremely little, their rupee cash balances swelled to a very large sum while their sterling cash reserves were exhausted and recourse had to be had to heavy borrowing in London to replenish them. And after all Government were compelled to abandon the attempt to maintain exchange by declining to sell their bills under a stated rate, the result being an almost perpendicular drop in rates to under thirteen pence. I am far from alleging that there is any likelihood of a repetition of that experience. The resources held by Government if wisely used will doubtless prevent that. But I refer to it now for the purpose of pointing out that the mere cessation of Council bill sales cannot always be relied upon to correct an adverse trade balance. It may be argued that on the present occasion when this policy was brought into play it was successful in as much as it brought up the rate of exchange to gold point within a very short period. But the fact remains that exchange did fall below gold point, however temporarily, and all the merit that can be claimed for the method employed to check the fall was that it did "on that occasion" eventually lift the rate to gold point. Now it is not enough to have a policy which will eventually resuscitate exchange from any depths, great or small, to which it may fall. What is wanted is some way of constantly, continuously, preventing a fall below gold point, otherwise there can be no confidence in

THE STABILITY OF EXCHANGE.

I hope I have said enough to show that reliance on the creation of Council bill sales alone is not enough to meet the contingency of an adverse balance of trade as indicated by a rate of exchange below gold point. The only really satisfactory support is an adequate supply of gold for export available on demand. When exchange recently fell to gold export point enquiries for gold at the Currency Department elicited the information that a limit had been placed on the amount of gold that could be issued to each applicant. Gold was not refused but only a comparatively small sum was available to each applicant. There lies a serious menace to the Gold Standard. If the standard is to be constantly, continuously maintained, there must be no limit on the quantity of gold available for export. Had gold been given for export freely and without limit there would have been no drop in exchange below gold point, the credit of the standard would have been maintained and doubt and uneasiness on the subject of exchange would not have been engendered in the minds of the public. We have accumulated during years of exceptional prosperity and with some rapidity large reserves, and when conditions are less favourable these reserves should be brought freely and promptly into play for the maintenance of exchange at its gold value. If this is not done we are as much in the dark as ever as to what may happen. We are traders in this country basing our calculations on a rate of exchange which we have always understood Government intended to uphold. Many of us are interested in ventures for which Home investors have supplied the capital on the understanding also that exchange will be maintained at 1s 4d, and your Committee held the view, which I think is generally shared, that Government having accumulated these reserves, not as I maintained for the benefit of the Secretary of State only but of the community generally, they should make available immediately all the resources in their hands to prevent exchange falling below gold point. Their hesitation to do this lately has created

A FEELING OF INSECURITY

which, unless we have some decided declaration on the point very shortly, must continue to exist, and there is a good deal of nervousness just now as to what may happen two or three months hence when owing to a diminished rainfall our exports will be much less than usual, and owing to excessive imports the balance of trade may be against us. It seems to me that our monetary scheme will never be perfect until it is automatic in its working, that is to say, that when exchange shows a tendency to fall below gold point, gold in reserve should be freely made available for export. If this is not done exchange may in an adverse season fall considerably as it did some years ago, and this would be a very serious matter for traders in imported goods and for those who have invested money in this country. It would also tend to keep capital out of the country, which would be a very great misfortune, as we want all we can get for the development of our railways, our industries and our agriculture.

During the year the attention of your Committee was drawn on several occasions by members to the great difficulties experienced by shippers towards the end of last season in the docks owing to a scarcity of shed room and to an insufficient supply of labour. The position is so well known to all of you that I need hardly go into details. Shipments at the end of the season were no doubt exceptionally heavy, and as the sheds were blocked with import cargo the result was great confusion, which caused much inconvenience and loss. The subject has engaged the very serious attention of your Committee on several occasions, and the Port Trust have been addressed on the matter. A full reply dealing with the whole question has not yet been received, but I can assure you that the matter is being most carefully dealt with by the Chairman of the Port Trust, and I am confident that in a very short time a scheme will be put forward which will greatly improve working methods and so prevent the likelihood of a similar state of affairs at a future date. There is therefore no doubt, gentlemen, that our trade has outgrown our present facilities, and it will be a very good thing for all of us when the new docks are ready.

LACK OF DOCK ACCOMMODATION.

Unfortunately, as many of us know to our cost, the import trade lately has been very much overdone. The result is an enormous stock of goods in the Port Trust Warehouses, owing to which difficulty has been experienced in clearing the Transit Sheds. Owing to this, exporters have been very seriously inconvenienced, and there can be no doubt that the whole system as regards goods in the Transit Sheds must be altered, and packages must not be allowed to lie there on any conditions. Importers, in fact, must be forced to clear their goods through the Customs on arrival, so that the sheds may not be blocked with unclaimed packages which hamper the work of the Dock staff and of those who desire to obtain delivery of their supplies. If consignees will not do this they must not be surprised if charges on their goods are further increased, for the rapid clearance of the Transit Sheds is imperative and must be arranged for. Proposals, I understand, are likely to come shortly before the Port Trustees for their consideration, which will provide for a very considerable increase of godown accommodation for imported goods near the Docks, with the object of rapidly clearing the sheds. It will also be proposed, I believe, that the Port Trust shall employ several hundred labourers of their own to assist at any time when extra labour is needed, and this will be very advantageous to those who use the Dock. A great deal of detail work has, however, to be dealt with in arranging these matters. It will be necessary in all probability to provide housing accommodation for these men, and many other points require very careful consideration. If, however, it can be arranged that the Transit Sheds shall be rapidly cleared, many of the difficulties complained of will, I think, disappear. The question of labour in the Docks is also, however, a most important one and must be dealt with on broad lines in the interests of trade generally.

PROGRESS OF THE NEW DOCKS.

As regards the new docks I am glad to be able to report much more satisfactory progress. For some time as you know, the work was very much behind hand, great difficulties having been experienced since the start, in obtaining labour. For some months now this difficulty has to a large extent been overcome, and at the present time there are about 12,000 labourers on the works including those employed at the quarries at Elephanta. Along with the other Trustees I visited the new dock only a few days ago and was surprised at the rapid progress that has been made in the last two months. The contractors assured me that the work will be completed within contract time, which is June 1911. I hope, gentlemen, that contractors as a rule are not oversanguine people, for we badly need the increased accommodation which this dock will give us, with its Transit Sheds and Warehouses, and 3½ years is still some time to look forward to. I understand, however, that the contractors have not yet given up all hope of earning a bonus for earlier completion of the work, and I shall be very glad indeed if eventually this is earned, but I fear it is hardly likely. The additional shed and warehouse accommodation which this new dock will give us will be of very great value to trade generally. In the meantime we shall have to do the best we can with the two Docks we now have, which, however, as we all know, are not large enough during a period of very active trade, though much, I believe, can be done by thoroughly overhauling the present system and by increased supervision and additional labour to help us over the next few years until the new docks are ready for our steadily increasing trade.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

On Railway matters generally—a very important topic as a rule—I have not very much to say. At our meeting last year the difficulty of obtaining wagons for cotton and other exportable produce, which was a very serious matter for many of us, was very fully dealt with, and as Government have realized this the position must improve before long as large supplies are now on order. But whilst a greatly increased number of wagons is an absolute necessity, means must at the same time be provided to pass traffic along with much greater expedition, or trade will not benefit to the full extent in time of pressure. The view taken, therefore, by your Committee at an interview they had a short time ago with the Hon'ble Mr. Finlay, was that new lines should not be pressed at present, but that everything should be done to bring up existing lines to their full capacity, the opinion being that if the present main lines were fully equipped a great deal more work could be got out of them. It was also held that in preference to new lines existing tracks should be doubled where necessary, as this would enable traffic to be passed along at much greater speed. In reply to the questions which were put before us by the Railway Finance Commission we advised that we considered that the existing dissatisfaction with the Railway administration in India might be set down to defective financial arrangements and to faulty administration. We considered that in recent years the amounts allotted for construction and equipment had not been sufficient for the needs of the country, and we pointed out that when an allotment had once been made to a Railway Company, it should not, in our opinion, be withdrawn if unspent at the end of the financial year. We held that all such allotments should be invested in the Railway Board and that

UNSPENT BALANCES

should be earmarked for particular purposes or handed over to the Company for whose benefit the money had been alloted. As regards the Railway Board, we pointed out that, in our opinion, successful working had been interfered with by the fact that the Board was a subdepartment of the Department of Commerce and Industry, and we gave it as our opinion that the Board in future should have a free hand in general administrative work, that it should be separated entirely from Commerce and Industry, and that the President of the Board should have a seat upon the Viceroy's Council. I hope, if this is done, the Railway Board will be able to take a more independent position than it has done in the past, and that confining itself mainly to matters of policy on broad lines it will leave matters of detail to a large extent to the different Railway Administrations.

On the question of raising money without which railway development cannot proceed, we must await the report of the Royal Commission now sitting. If the system of financing can be made more elastic a great impetus will probably be given to railway development and equipment, and as our railways are profitable undertakings, and if fully equipped would be more profitable, investors and promoters might surely be offered more favourable terms than at present. This is a point the Commission must be considering, and as so much depends on a wise decision the report is being looked forward to and will be read with great interest, more especially as during the coming financial year, owing to the scarcity now existing, a much smaller sum is likely to be available for railway purposes.

OCTROI.

You will have seen from the recent debate in the Corporation that the question of local Octroi duties has engaged the attention of your Committee during the year and I was very glad to find that at the debate above referred to many members of the Corporation did not share the economic fallacies of the Chairman of the Standing Committee. In a letter which your Committee addressed to Government a few months ago they contended that the food of the people should be freed from local taxation, and I am glad to think that this view is generally accepted not only in the Corporation Hall, but by the community generally. It certainly does seem strange that in a wealthy city like Bombay, with the property tax at its minimum, it should be necessary to impose taxes upon food. The whole system of Octroi duties is, in my opinion objectionable, and it is without doubt a very wasteful form of raising money. In a letter which your Committee addressed to the Commissioner early in the year, they pointed out that, as regards sugar, out of 14½ lakhs collected in the year ending 31st March, 1906, 12½ lakhs were refunded, and that out of the nett amount received of Rs. 1,80,000, a sum of nearly Rs. 61,000 was disbursed in expenses, which left a nett profit to the Municipality of less than 1¼ lakhs. I am sure, gentlemen, you will agree with me that any system of taxation which can show a result of this kind must be wrong. In this connection, although I do not wish to detain you, I would like to quote the remarks which were made on this subject by Sir Steyning Edgerly at the Budget Meeting which was held in Poona at the end of June. In referring to this question of Town duties Sir Steyning remarked that if you can do without Octroi taxation you ought to." There is no doubt, he added, that it can hardly be imposed in a form which does not interfere with trade and if you can raise money in other ways it is better to do so.

REFUNDS.

Next if Octroi in itself is not a very good form of taxation, but helps to raise revenues where money is essential then it becomes a much worse thing when a great deal of the revenue raised is to be spent in giving refunds." I hope the new Committee will continue to press this question on the lines laid down by your Committee during the past year. As I have said, the food of the people should not be taxed and revenue should not be raised at an abnormal cost. I cannot see why in this respect Bombay should be behind other Presidency towns in India, and I can only hope therefore that before very long this objectionable and wasteful form of taxation will be done away with.

The question of an enlargement of the Councils has also engaged our attention, and whilst in our reply we sympathised with the view held by the Government of India that it is desirable that the natives of this country should be given wider opportunities of expressing their views on administrative matters, we were not able to be very enthusiastic over the proposals that have been put forward for consideration, as we very much doubt whether they will really give the community generally much greater opportunities than they have at present of dealing with their own affairs. The point however that we particularly urged was that if the Councils are enlarged, non-official Europeans in this country should be given more representation, our view being that the interests of Europeans are very important in many ways and that as Government appear anxious that minorities should be fully represented, the non-official Europeans have a very good claim to consideration in this respect.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BOMBAY.

One of the most interesting matters dealt with at the close of the year was a letter which was addressed to us by the Bombay Government in connection with the numerous important schemes for the development of Bombay City and the improvement of communications in the Island. It is hardly necessary for me to deal with this matter at any length as our reply appeared in print only a few days ago. This question is however a most interesting and important one, and I hope very much that it will be taken up seriously by Government and that a scheme on broad lines will be the result. I know very well that His Excellency Sir George Clarke has this matter very much at heart, and I feel confident that the unprejudiced mind he can bring to bear upon the many important questions that need settlement will prove of the very greatest value. So far as business is concerned, trade will secure almost all it needs when the new docks are opened and the large reclamation has been completed at Mazagon. We can therefore deal with this question from the point of view of the good of the City as we have no particular interests of our own to push forward. We are very anxious, of course, for Railway communication between the centre of the Fort and Mazagon, and I hope that the scheme which has lately been put forward, as was suggested by this Chamber three years ago, will be found practicable, and that the question of whether such a line would be immediately profitable will not be allowed to stand in the way of what after all is a necessity. If an overhead Railway to Mazagon is decided upon it could be extended in various directions for the benefit of those who live outside the City, and could also eventually be carried to Trombay along the new Reclamation which is now being started at Mazagon, and which when complete will give the trade the increased accommodation it badly needs for Cotton, Grain, and many other things. It is, I think, quite clear to everyone that one of the most desirable improvements would be a broad avenue running right through the centre of the Native Town, and I am assured on most excellent authority that the nett cost to the City of widening Abdul Rehman Street would not be by any means an excessive amount—about 25 lakhs in fact.

TRAMS AND THE NORTH OF THE ISLAND.

It is most necessary that free communication should be established with the northern parts of the Island and until this is done I doubt if our Tramway system will have fair play, for unless the people can get out in reasonable time to Mahim and surrounding districts it will be very difficult for the population to spread, as it is so very necessary they should do. With wide roads and improved communications by Electric Tram and by Rail, Bombay as a city might, in a few years, be a very different place to what it is now. My feeling is that if a broad scheme for the improvement of the City is not drawn up at once and the work promptly taken in hand, that the opportunity will be lost for ever. It is a pity, of course, that we have not dealt with this matter seriously in the past, for it has been apparent to many of us for a very long time that something in this direction should be done, and we all welcome the action which has been taken so promptly by our new Governor, in bringing this question to the serious notice of the different interests concerned. We do not wish to tread upon anybody's toes nor do we wish to seriously inconvenience any large section of the population. What, however, I think, all the leading citizens of Bombay desire is that the City should be developed on broad lines and that changes that are decided upon should be in the interests of the population as a whole. There is a very great deal that can be done if we would only regard the matter broadly, and if we do not do this we shall fail in our endeavours to make Bombay a city capable of accommodating satisfactorily the increased population of years to come.

I now beg to move, "That the Report of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the year 1907 be adopted and confirmed." (Applause).

Mr. D. N. Graham seconded the resolution.

THE NEW CHAIRMAN.

Mr. H. E. E. Procter said: Gentlemen,—In supporting the adoption of the Report, it is not necessary for me to say much after the exhaustive manner in which our Chairman has dealt with the matters under review, but I should like to refer to a few of the matters that seem to me to call for special notice. Our Chairman has dealt fully with the Gold Standard Reserve question and I will only add that what has taken place during the last few months has fully justified the action your Committee took at the beginning of last year. As to the question of octroi, I quite agree with the action taken by the Committee and think we should continue to press for its abolition. As regards the difficulties in connection with the congestion in the Docks which our Chairman has referred to, I need only say that this matter shall receive the careful attention of the incoming Committee as we all realise what an important matter it is to Bombay. Those of you who were present, like myself, at the General Meeting in 1898, will remember the impassioned address delivered by Mr. Gilbert in favour of inoculation, calling upon Government to encourage and offer every facility to the people to resort to inoculation as the only remedy against plague. You will remember how ably he was supported by Mr. Rimington, Mr. Moses and Mr. Symons and how the resolution was carried unanimously. You will also remember the guarded reply we received from Government who stated that inoculation was still in the experimental stage. This Chamber has all along strongly advocated the efficacy of inoculation as the only remedy against plague and in 1903, feeling that it had certainly got beyond the experimental stage, they again addressed Government pointing out the serious effects on trade caused by plague and again asking Government to do all in their power to encourage inoculation. This letter remained unanswered up till now and it must therefore be a matter of great satisfaction to this Chamber to see the whole-hearted manner in which His Excellency Sir George Clarke has declared himself on the side of inoculation as the only efficacious remedy against plague, and I only trust that his action will result in a large increase in inoculation throughout the Presidency. It is also gratifying to see at the same time that His Excellency's Government has removed the medical inspection on the coast, seeing how harassing it was to passengers without really attaining any good results.

DEFICIENCY IN ROLLING STOCK.

Our Chairman thinks that as Government have realised the gravity of the situation, the position should improve shortly, but I am not at all sure myself whether they have grasped its seriousness. Anyhow, the position to-day is not really much better than it was a year ago, and had we had a season this year anything like that of last year, the position would have been most serious. As it is, I ascertained when in Calcutta last month that the position, as far as the supply of wagons for coal was concerned, was worse than it ever had been before owing probably to the demand on account of the famine traffic, and there is no doubt that the present inflated price of coal is due principally to the insufficient wagon supply. In other words, we are paying about Rs. 3 a ton more for our coal because there are not sufficient wagons to cope with the trade. I may mention as a specific instance that a steam Tramway in the Central Provinces in connection with manganese mines there, which only requires 300 tons a month, has been told by its suppliers that they are absolutely unable to get a wagon from the Bengal Nagpur Railway and suggest that they should obtain their coal from Bombay. It is true that more wagons have been ordered, but I happen to know that last year one of the largest firms of wagon makers in England offered the India Office to supply 10,000 wagons for India by the 30th of September 1903 at a very reasonable price and to accept payment in five years' bonds carrying 3½ per cent. interest. This offer was refused but it seems to me that if Government had grasped the situation they would gladly have accepted an offer which would have relieved the situation certainly more rapidly than it is being relieved now and on a much sounder financial basis than borrowing from the Gold Standard Reserve.

With regard to the reply sent by your Committee to the Government of India regarding railway finance, while agreeing with it as far as it goes, it seems to me it has missed out the most important point from this Chamber's point of view. This Chamber has, from its commencement, been a strong advocate of the development of railways through private enterprise. They have pressed this in season and out of season and now, when for the first time we are asked our opinion as to by what methods funds should be raised for railway construction, we send in a reply without even a reference to private enterprise. It seems to me that if one thing more than another has been demonstrated during the last few years, it is that the Government of India is unable to provide funds for the development of its railway system at a rate to keep pace with the requirements of trade. I think the first people to admit this would be the members of the Railway Board themselves. When the development of railways is entirely dependent upon a programme which is always liable to be curtailed by famine or other special circumstances requiring funds, it stands to reason that it cannot be satisfactory, and, while I quite agree with the proposals for giving the main lines increased powers so as to be enabled to raise their own funds for improving and developing their own systems, I think every encouragement should be given to private enterprise to come forward and construct feeder lines. It seems to me that if the whole railway system in India, including feeder lines, is to be entirely constructed by Government, then many feeder lines which are urgently wanted will not be built for years to come. To my mind, the subject is so important that I think we should address a supplementary letter to the Secretary of State on this point.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

MR. S. M. MOSES'S SPEECH.

Mr. S. M. Moses said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—For some years past I have had the honour of being entrusted with the pleasant duty of proposing the vote of thanks to the retiring Committee. But to-day I am sorry to say that this will be the last occasion on which I shall have the pleasure of exercising that privilege. It is no small matter for a Committee of gentlemen representing the various branches of Commerce and Industry to sacrifice, in addition to their own business, a good deal of their valuable time by coming here every week and deliberating upon the multifarious questions of commercial interest that come before them for their consideration and disposal; furthermore to work on the special Committees, which take up still more of their time. Judging from the report that is placed before us, I find their labour was onerous last year, and their actions have met with our approval. I therefore, on behalf of the Members of this Chamber, offer them our grateful thanks.

But before submitting the proposal formally for your adoption, I may be permitted to say a few words on matters which I trust may be of some interest to the Members of this Chamber.

THE MILL INDUSTRY.

At the close of 1906, you are aware that a crisis of great magnitude passed over the China Markets by the failure of the native dealers and Compradores. We were sanguinely expecting that when Manchuria opened there would be a great outlet for our Twist, but we were doomed to disappointment. The benefits derived were reaped mainly by the Japanese. So far from finding an outlet for our goods there, we were actually debarred from sending some of the Twist which was formerly consumed at Newchwang; this was replaced by Japanese Yarn. Our Exports of Twist to China last year were materially curtailed as compared with 1906, (in 1906—596,926 bales and in 1907—4,12,127 bales or a decrease of 184,799 bales) owing to the Japanese competition on the one hand, and the famine in some parts of China on the other. The Mills would have fared worse, had it not been for the timely demand that sprang up for our Twist from the Syrian Ports and even at Manchester, which took off 75,000 bales from our Market and gave a tone to the China Markets. But the demand was unhappily shortlived; because, it is stated, our Mills either could not, or would not, produce Yarn of the quality and strength that is required for those Markets; at any rate they were wanting in quality, and the demand ceased. Latterly, the trade suffered severely by the fall in Exchange. In August it was Rs 230 per 100 Taels in Shanghai and in December Rs. 178½, a difference of 20 per cent. Since then it has been going up and down Rs. 10 per week for every 100 Taels. Gentlemen, no trade in the world could stand such violent fluctuations. The only remedy to bring about a healthy trade in our relations with China would be, in my humble opinion, the establishment of

A GOLD STANDARD IN CHINA.

I admit the difficulties in accomplishing this object; but they are not insurmountable. The "Entente Cordials" now existing between us and the Chinese is such that our Home Government are willing to sacrifice the Opium revenue of India, amounting to about six millions sterling annually, besides throwing thousands of Ryots out of employment, to satisfy the susceptibilities of the Chinese; and that without the slightest guarantee that the production of Opium in China will be similarly curtailed. I maintain that it would be practically impossible to stop the cultivation of Opium in China, as it is carried on over such vast areas of villages and fields that the Chinese Government, even if they had the will, would not have the power to prevent it. I hope therefore that in justice to our Indian Taxpayer the deficit in our Opium Revenue will be made up by the Home Government. Under these circumstances, I think that it is an opportune moment for our Government to approach the Chinese with a view to persuade them to appoint a Financier of the stamp of Lord Cromer, to take in hand and advise them as to the method of introducing a Gold Standard, when all China—it is immaterial whether Taels or Dollars. When that is done, we know from experience of India and Singapore what a small quantity of actual Gold is required to be in circulation to establish a Gold Standard. A moderate amount of Gold could be introduced into China for circulation, by raising a Gold Loan sufficient for that purpose. Such an event would not only benefit foreigners, but it would have a beneficial effect on the exports of Tea and Silk from China.

COUNCIL BILLS.

The position of Government with regard to their reserves of Silver and sale of Council Bills is an unenviable one at the present time. Not many months ago Government were busy buying Silver at high prices in pursuance of their scheme to hold six Crores of Rupees in reserve to meet demands which they had become accustomed to be called upon to meet of late years at short notice. And as soon as they had achieved their purpose the main prop of the Silver Market was removed, and the great slump occurred, bringing with it the upset to the China Exchanges and the demoralization of our Trade with the Far East; but fortunately some support has been obtained latterly from Mexico, Germany and America. Six Crores of Rupees worth of Silver at something over thirty pence per ounce is a heavy load to carry at a time when Gold is going to a premium and Rupees to a Discount. But that is not the whole of the trouble. Government are not able to sell their Council Bills to fill their requirements. They have still some £3¾ millions to sell before the 31st March and, owing to the failure of Rain, exports this season are so small that there is a great scarcity of private Bills, a fair demand existing for Bank Bills, and consequently there is very little enquiry for Councils. So that it looks as if Council Bills awaiting sale must accumulate until our Exports recover, with the result that Government are likely to be largely over-provided with Silver, even apart from the special reserve of six Crores. This is an unfortunate state of affairs, because any embarrassment to Government finances must affect the business Community sooner or later, and the effect upon the foreign Exchanges will be watched with much anxiety. Not long ago the stability of Exchange was threatened owing to mismanagement of the Gold Reserve, and although there has been a recovery, the outlook is still ominous.

This being the last time I shall have the pleasure of addressing this Chamber, I should like to express my gratification at its ever-increasing influence, both with the Commercial Community and with the Government. There is no doubt, Gentlemen, that in you is vested great power for the improvement and extension of the Commerce of this City, and, in taking leave of you, I wish you every success in your endeavours to that end. With these remarks, I beg to propose that the thanks of the Chamber be tendered to the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman and the outgoing Committee for their able conduct of the affairs of this Chamber during the past year.

Mr. J. N. Motaxa seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

Proposed by Mr. N. S. Glazebrook and seconded by Mr. J. Fairclough, it was resolved "That the following gentlemen be elected members of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the year 1908:—Messrs. F. W. Bickel, J. Greig, J. N. Metaxa, J. S. Wardlaw Milne, W. C. Symes, A. P. Stewart, and Major A. D. G. Shelley, R. E.

It was resolved on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. H. E. E. Procter, (4) "That Rules 12 and 13 of the rules for Committees of Arbitration be amended as follows:—Rule 12. A minimum fee of Rs. 30 shall be payable to the Secretary of the Chamber by each of the parties to the Arbitration on filing their case, and shall be distributed as follows:—Not less than Rs. 15 to the general funds of the Chamber and the remainder equally among the arbitrators. Rule 13. In a case involving a larger fee than Rs. 30 from each party, the same shall be fixed by the General Committee who shall also decide as to the distribution. Any extra expenses incurred shall be borne by the disputants."

"(5) That the words 'other than those relating to Piece Goods' in connection with the rules regarding General Disputes and Arbitrations, be deleted."

Proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. A. P. Stewart, it was resolved "That Messrs. A. F. Ferguson and Co., be re-elected Auditors of the Chamber's Accounts for the year 1908, on a remuneration of Rs. 150."

It was resolved on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John Greig: "That Messrs. H. E. E. Procter and H. Courtenay Wright be elected Trustees of the Chamber's Provident Fund for the current year."

On the motion of Mr. Moses a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

FACTORY LABOUR COMMISSION.

Evidence Taken in Rangoon.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RANGOON, FEBRUARY 25.

The Factory Commission has commenced its sittings here.

The first witness was Mr. Leveson the District Magistrate who said there was no special Factory Inspection Establishment in Burma, that the Inspection was under the charge of the District Magistrate and, where appointed, Inspectors and the Civil Surgeon were Medical Inspectors, that the system had worked satisfactorily, that the labour conditions in Burma were not such as to require stringent measures to prevent sweating that there were no industries involving process which called for special hygienic precautions, and land conditions were not such as to necessitate strict supervision with regard to over-crowding or ventilation that he could not see any useful result from the centralisation of factory legislation, and that if this were found necessary, Burma should be exempted.

Whole-time Medical Inspectors, he said, were not at present needed in Burma, and that there were about 180 factories in Rangoon; that once a year he inspected each factory, and a Joint Inspector visited them also, so that each factory was visited twice a year.

A proposal was made in India to do away with the Medical Joint Inspector. said Mr. Leveson, and in his opinion there would be an objection to this as the Medical Joint Inspector would pay greater attention to sanitation, etc., while the other official would confine himself to other matters such as hours of work.

Although there is no procedure laid down the witness' practice is to call the attention of Managers of factories to the points noticed in his or the Joint Inspector's reports. The present system of non-continuity of the office of Joint Inspectors is not a serious drawback, as it is possible one man might detect a serious defect which escaped another.

No mill, he said, could get coolies to work more than twelve hours. He had no direct evidence on the subject, but that was the conclusion of his experience. The restriction to twelve hours would not cause any inconvenience to millowners. In the busy rice season, when the turns were over 12 hours, a proportionate increase of say 20 per cent. of temporary hands were engaged and shifts were arranged, but if each man, however, individually were to be stopped when he had done his 12 hours, there would no doubt be difficulty.

It would not be possible to prosecute the contractor if the coolies worked over the hours allowed by the Act. Children under fourteen were not employed as a rule in mills, but some were employed in sweeping and carrying baskets of sawdust, etc.

In one case in a mill here, the Commission found a child weighing 58 lbs. carrying a basket of 48 lbs. It would more frequently be in the big mills than in thesmaller ones that children would be employed.

During the busy season the rice mills do not stop working in the middle of the day in India. The interpretation of the Act is that the whole mill stops work, and that is the practice with the smaller mills and timber mills. He understood that the stoppage of work, however, was applied to the men individually.

Something had been done by some owners to improve the air in rice mills which is full of dust. He had never noticed any of the coolies to suffer from sore eyes or chest complaints.

If a class of young persons from 14 to16 ye ars were created, it would not adversely affect millowners. The difficulty would be to explain to some millowners the cause for the restriction. If applied to contractors, it would cause, perhaps, a shortage of labour which even now was becoming intense.

The coolies who were at present not under the Act should, in his opinion, be brought under the Act.

The prohibition of the employment of women at night would cause no difficulty.

Major Bayyay, I. M. S., said that the general health and physique of the factory employes in Burma was somewhat better than the general average of the same class. He had not found any of specific classes of disease amongst the factory population.

Children are very little employed in the Rangoon factories.

The existing medical arrangements sufficed for inspection, but he urged the desirability of enforcing compulsory vaccination on those operatives who do not possess satisfactory vaccination marks. He had not noticed any special bronchial complaints in the mills due to the fine dust. One would imagine the work would be unhealthy, but as they did not work year in and year out it did not seem to affect them.

He had not found, at the time of his visit, any child under age and without certificate being employed at any mill. He had rejected for labour 5 per cent. of the children, for being under-sized.

Compulsory vaccination would affect the labour market.

The coolie lines were certainly not sanitary, but it was difficult to improve matters.

There were no signs of the coolies suffering from over-work.

The fine dust in the mills had not proved dangerous or left any traces in the lungs of the workers, as the coal dust does in the case of miners.

Major Penny, I. M. S., said that the health and physique of factory operatives in Rangoon compared very favourably with the non-factory population of the class.

Women and children were employed to an extremely small extent.

The appointment of whole-time Medical Inspectors was unnecessary.

The paddy dust did not cause any noticeable complaints as a rule. Mill-hands, excluding the dock coolies, were quite as good as the average coolie in town.

He inspected all the south side of the town and cross the river and visited all the mills at least once a year.

In one or two factories he had noticed children playing with their mothers, but they were outside the factory limits.

Mr. W. F. S. Perry, of the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation, said:—No women or children were employed in the Firm's Mill. The working hours for adult-males should be limited to twelve, leaving it to the discretion of each employer to fix the time for the commencement and termination of the day's work. He would suggest stopping the mill at 10-30 for an hour as the men commence work very early in the morning. At times there was difficulty in getting labour workmen. The creation of a class of young persons, whose hours of work should be restricted, would not affect his business, for all his operatives are adult. The overcrowding of towns was not caused by the mill-hands, but the question of hours did not affect his mill because they did not work twelve hours. The difference in ages between a boy and a man was hardly worth considering and he always preferred engaging a man.

Mr. P. C. MacTaggart, of Messrs. Bullock Bros. and Co., gave evidence as to number of hands and hours worked in the various mills of the Firm. He did not consider it necessary to remit the working hours of adult-males in rice mills as the work involved no severe or concentrated strain. If hours were to be limited he recommended fixing twelve, and a half hour for the day when shifts are not employed. Uniformity in the administration of the Factory Act in India and Burma was impracticable. He had 20 years' experience in the Burma rice Trade. In Burma, the rice mills on an average in Lower and Upper Poozoondoung—worked for ten months and closed down for two months for repairs. Work, day and night, was carried for 85 days at the Lower Poozoondoung Mill. There was no difficulty in our obtaining labour. The restriction of working hours to twelve would not affect anyone but the headman. If a rule that each man had to work only twelve hours were enforced the mill would have to stop, and these stoppages were a source of loss. At present the mills were stopped for half an hour for cleaning. The men always got Sunday off, for the mill stopped the engines from Saturday noon to Sunday midnight. The men are paid by contract for the work done, and while this system was in force it was possible they would succeed. The time limit, increase of emoluments and the requirement of the Act as to stoppages of work, were met by shifts and the engagement of extra men.

Mr. J. Scott, of Messrs. Steel Bros. and Co., gave evidence on the same lines as Mr. MacTaggart. A twelve hours working day was sufficient allowance, he said, for males. He was in favour of adults not working more than twelve hours. The usual method by which the difficulty was overcome was by engaging extra men, about 33 per cent., and arranging shifts. For the last few years a scarcity of coolies had been felt.

The Commission then adjourned.

SPORTING NEWS.

RACING.

Bombay Tenth Extra Meeting.

A DEAD HEAT.

Yesterday at Mahaluxmi the Extra Meetings were continued with and, though of course there was somewhat of a falling off from the Big Meeting, the attendance was very fair. Fields were not large but some very fair racing was provided and for a change the punters had the better of exchanges in no less than five out of seven events. For the first time this Season there was a dead heat and that between Bay Middleton and Meerjan in the Coorla Plate of a mile. It was expected that an eighth race would be provided with the run-off but it soon became known that the boy was to have a walk over. This occurred in Poona when Tachreet was given the race after dead-heating with Makhool in the Bedouin Plate of the third day of the Big Meeting. It is a peculiar rule of the Turf Club that the public who back the horse that is scratched are not assured of a fair run for their money. In the bargain it opens up a chance for

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE steamer Ismaila 3387 tons, Captain J Ross, will sail to-day for Calcutta etc., with a general cargo.

THE Laluan, 2294 tons, Captain W H Ross, arrived in harbour yesterday from Moulmein with a cargo of rice and 1 deck passenger.

THE R I M S General Brackenbury, Lieut Commander Whish, arrived in Bombay harbour yesterday from Karachi.

THE steamer Dandolo, 3197 tons, Captain E Giacopello, will sail to-day for Calcutta and Madras, with a general cargo.

THE B I S N Co's steamer Kola, 510 tons, Captain J Cole will sail to-day for Persian Gulf etc. with a general cargo and 20 cabin and 150 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's steamer Sirsa 1675 tons, Captain E G Tipper, arrived in Bombay harbour yesterday from Calcutta, via coast ports with a general cargo, Mr. Summers and 5 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's steamer Lhasa, 936 tons, Captain W H Rothwell, arrived in harbour yesterday from Karachi etc., with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr. and Mrs. Gordon; Mrs. and Miss Furdoonji and a number of deck.

MEN-OF-WAR & ROYAL INDIAN MARINE SHIPS.

IN GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD.

H M S Sphinx .....Comdr Lilehfield .....R Navy
H M S Lapwing .....Lt-Comdr A N Gouldsmith .....R Navy

IN THE STREAM.

H M S Hyacinth .....Capt A W Heneage .....R Navy
H M S Highflyer.....Capt O S Hickley .....R Navy
H M S Redbre st .....Lt-Comdr W Hose .....R Navy
R I M S Palinurus .....Capt Hickman .....Survey St
R I M S Northbrook...Comdr McArthur .....R I M
R I M S General Brackenbury..Lt Whistl .....R I M S

VESSELS IN THE HARBOUR—FEB. 26.

Arabia .....4167 Leigh .....London.....14-3 P & O Co
Bahadur .....2936 Crebbin .....G G Telpal
Brighton .....2274 Heggiubothum .....The Captain
Cardium .....2953 Daniel .....W & A Graham & Co
Fernley .....2471 Forsyth .....W & A G & Co
Harlyn .....2234 Bird .....Bombay Co
Helios .....869 Knutsen .....F F Campbell & Co
Ipswich .....513 Pelling .....Shah S N Co
Istrar .....2979 Jacob .....K Nixon & Co
Imaum .....2703 Penberthy .....K N & Co
Ismaila .....334 Ross .....M M & Co
Ipswich .....576 Wallace .....Shah S N Co
Kola .....510 Cole .....P Gulf .....M M & Co
Magdala .....3134 Lemand .....T Morrison & Co
Lhasa .....936 Rothwell .....M M & Co
Laluan .....2294 Ross .....
Palam Hall .....2596 Mahn .....The Captain
Sultan .....1781 Ulrich .....Zbar .....21-3 A Strauf es
Sirsa .....1675 Tipper .....M M & Co
Wearmouth .....Cutts .....Bombay & Co
Xima .....146 .....Shah S N Co

VESSELS IN DOCK—FEB. 26.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Vessel.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
A Castello	2329	Runton	Hull	7-3	F Muir & Co
B Clan Colquhoun	3769	Saumer	Dunkirk	29-2	F Muir & Co
C&R Malta	3300	Peters	Shanghai	3-3	P & O S N Co
D&E Nudden	1944	Addenbrooke	Calcutta	29-2	M M & Co
F Caledonia	3329	Towsyn	Aden	7-3	P & O Co
K Shah Jehan	2566	Grant	N F		H A Hassum
M Vigo	3020	Harbord	Hull via K'chi	28 2	F M & Co
N Marienfels	3560	Sandsten	Hamburg	27-2	Glade & Co
P Clan Shaw	3948	Clark	Middlesborough	28 2	F M & Co
Q Shah Allum	1918	Mauritzis	Davidson	29-2	A Hassum

H W P D

Bahadari	829	Fakeers	K'chi	29-2	Bo S N Co Ld
Pousni	562	Shamsudin	Bunga r	29-2	Bo S N Co Ld
Sabarmati	524	Manomed	Mangalore,	28-2	Bo S N Co Ld

30 Ton Crane.

Warora .....3565 Butler .....N F .....M M & Co

VICTORIA DOCK.

1	Clan Urquhart	3269	McPherson	Antwerp...27-2 F M & Co
2	Olympia	3269	Osborne	Lpool ..29-2 W & A G & Co
6	Dandolo	3197	Giacopello	Calcutta...27-2 S C Italiana
7	Koerber	3164	Forests	Trieste ..1-3 A L S N & Co
10&11	Oy of London	3662	Black	K'chi ....1-3 K Nixon & Co
12	Arcadia	3511	Valentine	London ..29-2 P & O Co
15	Yetorofu Maru	3367	Sato	Kobe .....1 3N Y Kaisha

M W D D

Chanda .....3351 Tice .....Antwerp .....5-3 M M & Co

ARRIVALS.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
26	Sirsa s	Tipper	Calcutta, Jan 26
	Laluan s	Ross	Moulmein, Feb 4
	Lhasa s	Rothwell	Karachi, Feb 24
	R I M S General Brackenbury	Whish	Karachi, Feb 23

The following vessels obtained their portclearances yesterday:—
Steamer Dandolo, Giacopelo, for Calcutta, &c.
" Kola, Cole, for Persian Gulf, &c.
" Ismaila, Ross, for Calcutta, &c.

The following vessels began to load yesterday:—
Steamer City of London, for Liverpool, &c.
" Dumbea, for Numea, &c.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The P and O steamer Oriental, arrived at Suez, from Bombay on the afternoon of the 22nd instant.

The C. Line steamer Clan Macintyre, left Liverpool, on the morning of the 24th instant.

The O. Line steamer Clan Sinclair, arrived at Suez, from Colombo, Madras and Calcutta on the morning of the 24th instant.

The C. Line steamer Clan Forbes, left Suez, for Colombo, Madras and Calcutta, on the morning of the 25th instant.

DAILY EXPORTS.—FEB. 26.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Olympia s—22 bales wool, J Samirmul; 21 bales wool, L Kallianchund; 25 bales wool, R Dossa and Co; 100 bales cotton, Ralli Bros; 3 bales twist, Globe Manufacturing Co; 34 cwt old rubber C MacDonald and Co; 900 cwt wheat sweeping, H Kanji; 200 bales cotton Ralli Bros.

City of London s—2,100 cwt myrabollams, A Khimji; 7,486 cwt myrabollams, E Oomersey.

FOR LONDON.

Arab—1,049 cwt castorseed, Shaw Wallace and Co; 133 bales hides and skins W and A Graham and Co.

Arcadia s—3 bales skins, R M Kooka; 9 bales hides and skins, Ewart Latham and Co; 3 bales carpets, Ajmere Export and Import Co; 13 bales skins B Ismail 4 bales carpets, Ardeshir and Co; 56 bales skins and 91 cases bristles, Nizamoodin and Co; 21 bales carpets H G H Mahomed and Sons; 100 bales hemp E Oomersey.

FOR NEW YORK.

Arcadia s—3 bales carpets, Fleming Shaw and Co.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Olympia s—2 bales skins Nizamoodin and Co; 1 bale cotton Ralli Bros.

City of London s—4,000 cwt linseed, Volkart Bros; 8,000 cwt mowrassed Shaw Wallace and Co; 1,000 cwt crushed bones, R Kaderbhoy.

FOR BOSTON.

Vigo s—1 bale carpets Finlay Muir and Co.

FOR HULL.

Castello s—14,000 cwt cottonseed L Dreyfus and Co.

FOR COPENHAGEN.

Castello s—101 cwt cashew nuts, J Fachire.

FOR ANTWERP.

Clan Urquhart s—2 bales savri cotton, A Moritz and Co; 50 bales cotton waste, N Damji; 2 bales piecegoods, and 16 bales twist, Finlay Muir and Co; 113 bales hemp, P Bhimji.

Clanda s—2,896 bales cotton Ralli Bros.

FOR PORTSAID (For orders.)

Chanda s—43,800 cwt cottonseed, Ralli Bros.

FOR DUNKIRK.

Clan Urquhart s—1,568 bales cotton, Ralli Bros, 2,000 cwt groundnuts, Volkart Bros.

FOR HAMBURG.

Marienfels s—1,428 bales cotton, Ralli Bros; 2 bales cotton, Bamji and Co; 19 bales hemp, P Bhimji 1,033 cwt myrabollams, A Khimji; 100 bales cotton fly, J C Todiwalla; 100, bales hemp, G Madhowji and Co.

FOR TRIESTE.

Koerber s—249 bales cotton, Ralli Bros; 1 bale carpet, The Bombay Company; 15 bales twist, H Subzerd Co; 23 bales twist, A Schmieger and Co.

FOR VENICE.

Koerber s—353 bales cotton, Volkart Bros.

FOR HONGKONG.

Multa s—300 bales twist, Sassoon J David & Co; 78 cwt gum, A H Mowji and Co.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Multa s—200 bales twist, A E J Abraham.

FOR KOBE.

Yetorofu Maru s—300 bales cotton, Ralli Bros; 109 bales cotton, Dhunjibhoy B Petit and Co.

FOR MELBOURNE.

Dumbea s—200 bales cotton, Greaves Cotton and Co.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it "will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair" to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful or as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemists for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale Depot: 33 Farringdon Road, London, England.

THE LADIES' CORNER.

CHARM OF THE TEA GOWN.

During colours are being used for the new tea-gowns. They are made with extreme simplicity, with much lace about the bodice, and usually with a wide, long sash of soft black silk. One of these little gowns has the top of the gathered skirt shaped into a low soft bodice over a lace blouse. Fastened low at the back of the neck is a long narrow scarf of the material of the gown, and coming forward to the front into a large bow below the bust. The long fringed ends fall quite to the hem of the skirt, and the sleeves of the lace fit the arms closely to the elbows and finish in lace frills. The beautiful kimonos in exquisite texture and workmanship, which come to this country from the Far East, are delightfully pretty for informal wear, but the opera-cloaks and theatre wraps and tea-gowns that are evolved from these kimonos are beautiful indeed. One of the prettiest of these kimonos is in white crepe de Chine, trimmed with folds of pale pink satin taffetas and embroideries in quaint designs in delicate blue, pink, and mauve colouring so. Nearly all the smart tea-gowns have low necks, cut square, round, or V-shaped, and have elbow of flowing sleeves, or the popular kimono sleeves split almost to the shoulder on the outer edge to display an under-sleeve of lace and chiffon. Very dainty, too, are the tea-jackets, especially the filet lace and embroidery designs. One design, with rounded fronts, falls from a high yoke, and over the yoke falls a wide cap collar, also with rounded fronts. This cap and the lower edges are finished with flounces of wide lace and there are puffed sleeves of the filet, finished with lace flounces, shorter on the inside of the arms. Pleated chiffon forms the lining and insets of heavy Irish lace motifs appear at intervals on the filet lace. A new pattern is shown in the surplice tea-jacket, which is extremely comfortable and graceful. The fronts cross in the surplice effect, and the basque sections are short over the hips, with deep pointed fronts and backs, all attached to a trim fitting belt. This design in China silk with insertions, edgings, and medallions of lace and touches of velvet ribbon is very effective. Another pretty design offered at the shops shows a square yoke, with a fan pleating inset in the back and a shawl collar edged with insertion. The little Matinees in cream cashmere, nun's veiling etc., are extremely dainty, and made with a pretty turnover collar, to which a ribbon tie may be added, are quite presentable out side the bedroom.

NEW LINGERIE UNDERSKIRTS.

In the new lingerie underskirts of batiste, fine lawn, or cambric, the ribbons drawn through beading appear on the edge of the flounce instead of the top. On one design in the shops there was a broad insertion of lace which headed the deep flounce, and a smart ruffle of lace appeared at the edge. The ribbon in a pale shade of blue was run through wide slits, cut and button-holed just between the insertion and the ruffle. A large bow of the ribbon fastened on to the top of the lace insertion made a pretty finish. A pretty idea is shown in the underbodice and underskirt joined together at the waist with a ribbon run through beading. This garment fastens up the front and is made to fit quite smoothly round the hips and waist, a thing so necessary under the beltless gowns now so much worn. In the silk designs the striped taffetas effects are the most popular, black and white being first favourites and after them come the Saxe blue and black stripes. The stripes are about half an inch wide, and in the simplest skirts are made with the stripes cut crosswise for the flounces. The more elaborate designs show flounces of lace or narrow ruffles edged with lace while embroidered medallions and a lavish amount of lace with ribbon ruches and velvet rosettes appear on others. The plain silk underskirt is a great deal tucked and trimmed with fan-shaped frills of accordion-pleated silk edged with box-pleated ruches of frayed silk.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. W. L. DUNLOP, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, Feb. 27.

77 Detail for the week ending Saturday the 29th instant.
To-day Thursday the 27th "I" "K" and "M" Cos Parade on the Maidan at 4 p m.

A. L. CARTWRIGHT, Capt.,
Adjt., B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LT.-COL. LOUIS P. RUSSELL COMMANDING, B. V. A.

Bombay, Feb. 27.

421 DUTIES.

Orders for the 27th instant (Thursday.)
Orderly Sergt—Sergt M H Coates
Next for duty—Sergt R Barker

422 DRILLS.

Morning 7-15 a m General Manning.
Evening 5-30 p m Gun Layers Examination.

419 GUEST NIGHT.

Thursday the 27th instant is reserved for Guest Night Dinner at 8-30 p m and to be followed by a Concert at 9-30 p m. Members wishing to bring Guest to Dinner can obtain tickets from the Sergeant Major at the Office, price of Tickets Re 1-8 no tickets will be issued after 9 a m on Thursday.

429 G. O. C's. INSPECTION.

The G O C Bo Brigade will hold his Annual Inspection of the Corps on Sunday the 1st proximo at 11 a m.

Extract from Army Regulation, is published for information "Every Member of a Corps including Reservists, must be present at the Annual Inspection or his absence accounted for to the Inspecting Officer, absence on account of sickness must be supported by a Medical Certificate.

R. W. FISHER, Lieut.,
Adjt., B. V. A.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a. m. yesterday give the following results :—

Wards.	Plague Attacks.	Plague Deaths.	Deaths from all causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	0	0	3
B Mandvi, Chukla, Oomerkhad and Dongri	10	6	24
Market, Dhobi Talao, Famawady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao, and Kumbharwada	4	4	26
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar, and Mahaluxmi	1	1	12
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tarkdi, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	4	4	25
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	1	0	12
G Mahim and Worli	3	4	11
Water Bridden	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	0	18
Total	23	19	141
Total plague deaths to date	141,891		
Same date last year	31	41	112

SMALL-POX.

Attacks.	Deaths
11	6

THE RAT CAMPAIGN.

The following table shows the results of the rat campaign :—

FEBRUARY, 26th 1908.

Ward.	Alive.	Dead.	Found Infected.
A	42	38	4
B	86	121	18
C	82	205	33
D	70	46	9
E	82	131	9
F & G	53	8	2
Total to date	415	544	71
Total rats killed			959

WHEN the employers of John Kataseek, of New York, sent to ask why he was not at business, it was found that burglars had stolen all his clothes during the night, and he could not leave his house.

ACCORDING to Messrs. H. S. Wilcocks and Co., the brokers' catalogues for the first East India indigo sales of the year held in London on the 27th January comprised a useful collection of indigo, though the commoner grades were too much in evidence. For all useful consuming indigo there was a good demand, and fully last rates rates to occasionally 2d. per lb. advance were readily paid. But only 155 chests out of the 425 brought forward were sold. Last year at the corresponding quarterly sales 424 chests were brought for word and 234 sold, whilst five years ago, 2,150 chests were brought forward and 885 sold. The present stock is 1,834 chests, which compares with 1,442 a year ago, and 5,423 five years ago, when the trade was on a much larger scale.

BY THE WAY.

CAMBRIDGE AND THE CENTENARY OF CHARLES DARWIN.

It is proposed that a commemoration shall be held at Cambridge next year in celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin. Darwin was born on February 12, 1809, and entered Christ's College, Cambridge, in October 1827; he took, as is well known, an ordinary degree, and in after years his college was prevented by his death from electing him an Hon. Fellow under their new statutes. "The Origin of Species" was published on November 24, 1859; so that next year is the centenary of the great scientist's brith and the fiftieth anniversary of his epoch-making work. The Council of the Senate at Cambridge propose that the celebration be held in the week beginning June 20, 1909.

THE NEW PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY.

Mr. C. E. Troup, who has just been appointed Permanent Under-Secretary at the Home Office, is, the London correspondent of the "Glasgow Herald" writes, a son-in-law of the late Dr. George Macdonald, poet, preacher, and novelist, having ten years ago married Winifred Louisa, the youngest daughter of the novelist. Like his distinguished father-in-law, Mr. Troup is a native of Huntly, N.B., and entered the Home Office nearly thirty years ago. Twelve years ago he became principal clerk of that Department. He is an authority on the identification of habitual criminals, and he was chairman of the Committee which some time ago considered this important question. When Mr. Troup was an exhibitioner at Balliol College he wrote the Cobden essay on "The Future of Free Trade."

MONUMENT TO CARDINAL MANNING.

The approaching centenary of the late Cardinal Manning's birth (which occurs in July next) is about to be commemorated by the erection of a marble monument over his tomb in the crypt of Westminster Cathedral, to which his remains were last year translated from Kensal Green, together with those of Cardinal Wiseman. The beautiful and costly sepulchre of the latter has been reconstructed; but the resting place of his successor has as yet been unmarked by any fitting memorial. A movement has now been started to supply this want. The proposed form of the memorial is a sarcophagus of white marble surmounted by a recumbent carving of the late Cardinal vested in the robes of an archbishop.

THE FOREST OF MOUNT KENIA.

A recent Colonial Office Report gives an interesting expert account, by Mr. D. E. Hutchins, of the Kenia Forest, which measures 287 miles long by eight broad, and comprises one million acres of timber, forming a girdle between the heights of 6,000ft. and 9,000ft. round the slopes of the mountain. It is the tropical continuation of the forest found at sea-level on the south coast of Cape Colony, at 3,000ft. above the sea in Natal and at between 4,000ft. and 6,000ft. in the Transvaal. From his own observation and from report, Mr. Hutchins estimates the timber in the Kenia Forest to average, roughly, 2,300 cubic feet per acre. On the basis of an average value of 2 1-3d. per cubic foot, the value of the timber would be therefore £23 per acre, or in all £23,000,000, the interest of which would exceed by £100,000 the total expenditure of the East African Protectorate.

LEGAL CONUNDRUMS.

Judges have occasionally to solve some curious conundrums. A number of specimens are given in the current number of the "Grand Magazine." In a case under the Workmen's Compensation Act, a joiner who had fallen from a ladder was refused compensation on the ground that the building from which he had fallen was not thirty feet high from roof to ground. It was urged on behalf of the workman that the chimney against which the ladder rested should be included in measuring the height of the building. Eventually the Court agreed to this view of the case, so the decision stands that a building may be higher than its own roof.

CONTRIBUTORY NEGLIGENCE.

A London gentleman sued a Strand restaurent proprietor for the price of his silk hat, which had been ruined by the beer-boy spilling a pint of ale into it, as it lay in a chair. There was no disputing the fact that the hat had been spoilt by the carelessness of the defendant's servant. The restaurant-keeper, however, pleaded that it was the customer's own fault. Chairs were not hat-pegs. If the customer had hung up his hat on the pegs provided for that purpose the accident would never have happened. The Registrar agreed. The beer-boy, he said, was certainly guilty of carelessness, but there was contributory negligence on the part of the customer, who for that reason could not recover.

AN INSURANCE CASE.

Insurance and compensation cases are responsible for many puzzles. Some time ago a valuable terrier was sent out from England to India. The animal was heavily insured. In a storm the poor beast got so badly damaged that one hind leg was rendered useless and he had to hobble along on three. His owner, of course, claimed from the insurance company. But by the insurance contract "walking at Calcutta" was deemed to be "safe arrival." The dog could walk albeit only on three legs: and the insurance people avowed that, therefore, there was no legal claim upon them. What the judge was called upon to decide was, "Can a dog be said to walk on three legs?" Eventually he declared that it would not, but all the same the plaintiff was only awarded a portion of the large sum which he claimed as compensation.

THE NEW CAPE PREMIER.

The Hon. John Xavier Merriman is sixty-seven years old and was born at Glastonbury, Somerset his father being a former Bishop of Grahamstown and a disciple of Newman at Oxford. He was educated at Radley Collage, and is a land surveyor by profession. During his political career at the Cape he has been characterised as an apportunist, due to the fact that he has in turn denounced and supported the Afrikander Bond. His manner is somewhat harsh and forbidding, but he is full of ability and clever speaker. Mr. Merriman has had thirty-nine years' experience of Parliamentary life.

ORIENTALS IN CANADA.

Nag Tany, an enterprising Japanese, the "Canadian Courier" states, has purchased 25,000 acres of irrigated land from the C. P. R. east of Calgary. He has embarked on a colonisation scheme to bring out Japanese to farm this land; a company has been capitalised; 200 Japanese will arrive in the spring and begin growing sugar-beets in Alberta; a refinary will be erected next year. The Japanese Government is favourable to allowing Japanese to enter Canada as farmers; the Western people fear that, while they may smuggle themselves in as tillers of the soil, they will soon get into competition with white men in other lines. Not so long ago there was talk of a Hebrew farming conlony in the West. Already there are more nationalities farming on the Canadian prairie than there are languages spoken in any city east of Winnipeg.

A PRINCE'S HOBBY.

The Prince of Monaco, as is well-known, makes a hobby of oceanographic studies, and in the "Windsor Magazine" we are told that he has had successively built three different ships to enable him to carry on these studies. The first was the "Hirondelle," a fine sailing-boat, which, after many efforts, was found to be insufficient, not being practically adapted to scientific research. In order to pursue his discoveries in 1891, the Prince had a new yacht built, called the "Princess Alice." This was a three-masted schooner, with the most powerful machinery constructed according to the Prince's indications, provided with large laboratories and all the necessary material for deep-sea fishing. But acquired experience proved that more perfected mechanism was still necessary, and the Prince ordered from Messrs. Laird and Co., of Birkenhead, a two-master of strong steel construction. This boat is called the "Princess Alice II."

THE STORY OF A KEY AND A DISASTER.

Mrs Hodgson Pratt (widow of the late well-known humanitarian and advocate of peace) sends to "Light" the following statement: You may be interested to hear of a thing which happened to me in Brittany last summer. I had to sign some railway transfers before the nearest British Consul, who was at Brest. I locked up the papers and railway stocks in a Breton cupboard as high as the ceiling and very solid. I kept the key in my pocket. When my cousin and I were ready to start I took out the key and it "would not" open its own cupboard. The servants came in turn and tried in vain. We had to miss our train to Quimper, which was our first stage to Brest. Now our village locksmith was very rough and ready so the next morning I said I would try the key myself once more before he perhaps ruined my lock. The key fitted perfectly and we went. But, immagine, we found at the station great placards posted up telling of the awful wreck of the Brest train the day before; and it was the train in which we should have been but for the obstinacy of the key. We saw the carriages all fallen into the river, and the dead and dying were in the hospital at Quimper. We told this to be a preservation wrought from the next world that is so near. Mr. Hodgson Pratt's cousin, Miss Lilian Cooke, endorses what "Light" calls "this suggestive little story."

MEN AND MATTERS.

"DICTATURA."

Senhor Joao Franco, the ex-Dictator of Portugal, whose almost absolute sway has been directly responsible for the terrible tragedy which has thrown its grim shadow over Europe, is a man just under middle age. His face is set in a rigid mask of determination, but his powerful mouth loses much of of its brutal directness of line by the veil of a heavy moustache. He is heavily built and his thick set figure repeats the massage of his face—determination. His appointment as Dictator was the direct outcome of an iniquitous system of what the Americans call "graft" and what we call "jobbery." The two political parties of Portugal were found to be utterly corrupt, and their respective struggles for power were only made to secure the enormous perquisites attached to the various executive offices. The late King, disgusted at the knavery with which he was beset, saw no real constitutional remedy. Then Senhor Franco used his influence and persuaded King Carlos to abolish the Cortes, which is the Portugese equivalent of our Parliament, and to substitute in its place Government by decree. From the first the Dictatorship of Senhor Franco was unpopular. Since his appointment in May last, Portugal has been seething with the discontent which has culminated so tragically. The Dictator is a wealthy man who is swayed more by a lust for power than the financial sweets of office. He is quick, energetic, talkative, and has proved his prowess in both the fields of oratory and journalism. His quickness of thought has been demonstrated on more than one occasion.

SENTENCED TO EXILE.

When a group of well-known Portuguese Liberals objected to the Dictator's autocratic methods, Senhor Franco invited them to meet him to discuss their objections. The place of assignation was the admiral's cabin on board a warship lying in the Tagus. The opponents to the Dictatorship went on board unsuspectingly. For some minutes they reviewed the situation with the Dictator. Suddenly the Senhor excused himself and left the cabin, and in a few minutes the Liberials on board realised that the ship was moving. They found they had been sentenced to exile by the Dictator and the ship had already started on its journey to one of the Portuguese need colonies. Their departure was followed by a decree from Senhor Franco extending to all "agitators"—by which all-embracing expression he meant all those who opposed his autocracy—the same summary procedure usually meted out to militant anarchists. Senhor Franco's life in Portugal is said to be not worth a moment's purchase. Already his house has been attacked and his journeys abroad are made under the protection of countless police and military. Let a link in this protective chain be missing and another Portuguese assassination is almost assured. But the Dictator justified his character for determination and refused to be intimidated by armed and unmerciful enemies. His resignation of his Dictatorship is said to be merely a matter of form. He is still the power behind the throne of the Boy King, Manuel II., and one can only hope that he will use that power more politically and more humanely than in the past.

THE QUEEN'S MINIATURES.

The curious theft of the minitures of her Majesty's three daughters from Mr. Carl Heutschel's studio (happily they have now been recovered) serves to remind us that her gracious Majesty is a particularly generous, as well as discriminating patron of these exquisite form of art. One of her Majesty's most cherished possessions is a truly exquisite miniture of the King in the wonderfully picturesque dress of a Knight of Malta which he wore at the famous Devonshire House ball at the Diamond Jubilee. This was painted by Miss Kussner—who in private life is Madame Coudert—and was a gift from the King to the Queen on the anniversary of their engagement,

A LADY LANDSEER.

Miss Maud Earl, who has been called the lady Landseer, also knows much of her Majesty's kindly patronage, and the pictures she paints of animals are small enough to be almost considered miniatures. Miss Earl, among much other work, has done wonderful portraits of "Snowball," a white collie; "Alex," a Borzoi; and "Vivien," a Bassett hound—all pets of her Majesty. It is not generally known by the way, that the King and Queen are so fond of their dogs that they do not share, but each has sole proprietorship of a group of pets. More recently Miss Earl has painted the King's wire-haired fox terrier, "Caesar."

THE GAPING DOG.

The Queen was much amused at the story connected with Miss Earl's picture, "The Vagabonds," a marvellous portrait of two decidedly Bohemian Irish terriers, one of whom is yawning widely at the spectator. Miss Earl found that her canine model would not yawn, so she had to sit in front of him and yawn herself for a long time. Suddenly he took the hint and proved an admirable sitter. But the comic thing was that when the picture was exhibited it made all the people who came to see it yawn themselves, and Miss Earl used to mingle with the crowd and watch with intense amusement the yawns running round the company.

PRINCE WHO DIVORCED HIMSELF.

Prince Louis of Monaco, heir to the throne of the Principality of Monaco, who has caused such a sensation by abducting his nine-year-old daughter from her mother in Paris, is the son of Prince Albert of Monaco by his first wife, Lady Douglas Hamilton. That marriage was annulled, Prince Albert enjoying the curious privilege of granting himself a divorce in his own matrimonial court. The present Princess is a cousin of the poet Heine, and was the widow of the Duc de Richelieu. The adventurous Prince Louis future fortune will be derived chiefly from the gambling palace of Monte Carlo.

WHEN WAR HUNG ON A BUTTON.

The man of the hour in France, M. Delcasse, was Foreign Minister during the critical Fashoda crisis. His wit and tact saved the two countries from a terrible struggle. The British Ambassador confronted him with a pocketful of explicit instructions, amounting to the ultimatum—"France must retire—or fight." The conversation was amicable, as became two diplomatists, and when, after defending the attitude of his Government, the British Ambassador fumbled at his frock coat button to take from his inner pocket the Note of Ultimatum, M. Delcasse interposed: "Do not undo that button, Excellency. I must not see that paper. If I but see the corner of it, the colour of it, it is a threat, and then France must fight. Matters will arrange themselves." And they did!

SMITH'S PEERAGE.

The Sword of State was carried at the opening of Parliament by one of the King's oldest friends, Earl Carrington. His lordship is the same age as the King—sixty-seven—and was his Majesty's inseparable companion when both were young. His family name is really Smith. There is a good story relating to the bestowal of the peerage on the first of the line. He had asked Pitt for permission to drive his carriage from his residence in Whitehall through the Horse Guards. "No," said Pitt, "I can't do that. But I'll tell you what I will do—I'll make you a peer." And he did!

HORSE-WHIPPED BY AN EARL.

The most exciting incident in Lord Carrington's career was his horse-whipping of a journalist who had libelled him in a scurrilous paper. Lord Carrington waited for the journalist on the steps of his club, soundly whipped him, and gave him his card. The affair led to one of the most remarkable scenes ever witnessed in a London police court. During the hearing of the case a violent struggle began suddenly at the solicitors' table for the possession of certain documents held by Lord Carrington's counsel, who was placing the papers in a strong-box when "the other side" rushed forward and seized them.

"POLICE! POLICE!"

In the centre of the court was a surging mass of human beings. Cries of "Police! Police!" rang through the building. The voices could not have been more urgent were murder being committed. Books, papers, inkstands, and pens were scattered. Hats were knocked off and smashed and blows were freely exchanged. Lord Carrington, forgetting that he was in custody, leapt over the desks and fought his way to his counsel, whom he sought to protect from the assailants. The officials raised cries of "Police!" Mr. Horace Williams, who stood appalled at the spectacle "was completely paralysed by this outrageous defiance of the established dignity and decorum of a court of law."

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ESSENCE OR FLUID EXTRACT OF REDYJAMAICA.
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Pronounced by the HIGHEST MEDICAL AUTHORITIES the most
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BEWARE OF IMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTES.
Be sure you get WILKINSON'S
N.B. the signature of the Proprietor and Trade Mark, thus Thomas Wilkinson are upon every GENUINE bottle.
To avoid impositions the Public are respectfully asked to notice this. (Any imitation is a felony.)
Fortify the System against Disease with PURE BLOOD.
WILKINSON'S SARSAPARILLA CLEANSES THE BLOOD OF ALL DANGEROUS HUMOURS.
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PROVISION MANUFACTURERS OF LONDON, ABERDEEN & SEVILLE.
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RETAIL FROM ALL PROVISION MERCHANTS THROUGHOUT INDIA

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Perhaps you suffer from the effects of a warm climate. Prolonged warm weather seriously impairs the strength of many people. The digestion is slow, and the liver becomes sluggish. Impurities in the blood accumulate and cause that feeling of downheartedness and depression.
AYER'S Sarsaparilla
is of the greatest use in such cases. Its purifying, strengthening, and upbuilding properties will be of inestimable value to you.
As now made, Ayer's Sarsaparilla contains no alcohol.
There are many imitation Sarsaparillas.
Be sure you get "AYER'S."
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You may enjoy Callard & Bowser's Butter-Scotch with the comfortable assurance that only first-class materials are employed in its manufacture.
Really wholesome Confectionery. LARGEST
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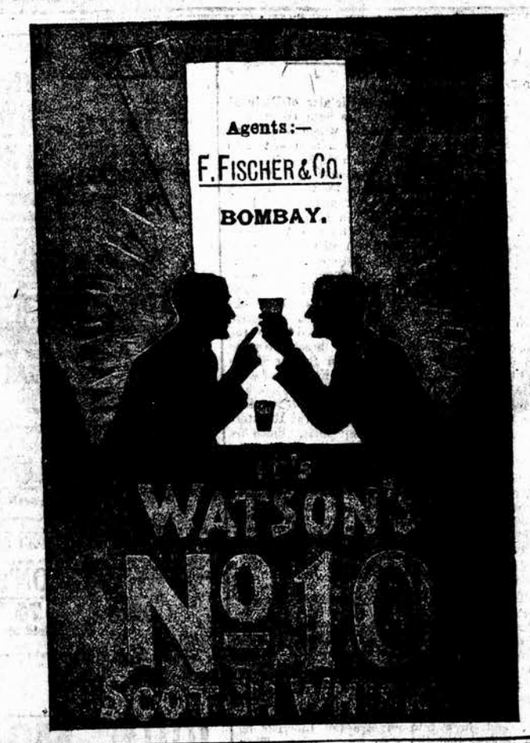

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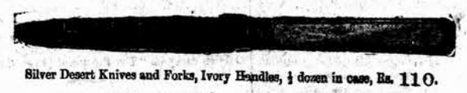
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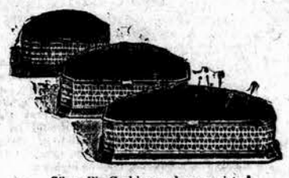
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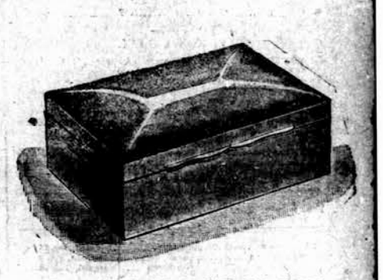
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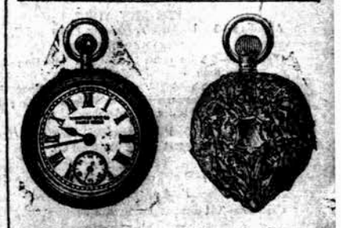

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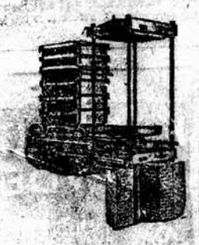

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